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IN JAPAN, CHINA
THE PHILIPPINES

REPORT OF THOMAS

Foreign Secretary

To the Executive Committee

RESOLUTIONS
CONFERENCE



AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONS
Boston, Mass.

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THOMAS S. BARBOUR

Foreign Secretary

Committee of the Missionary Union

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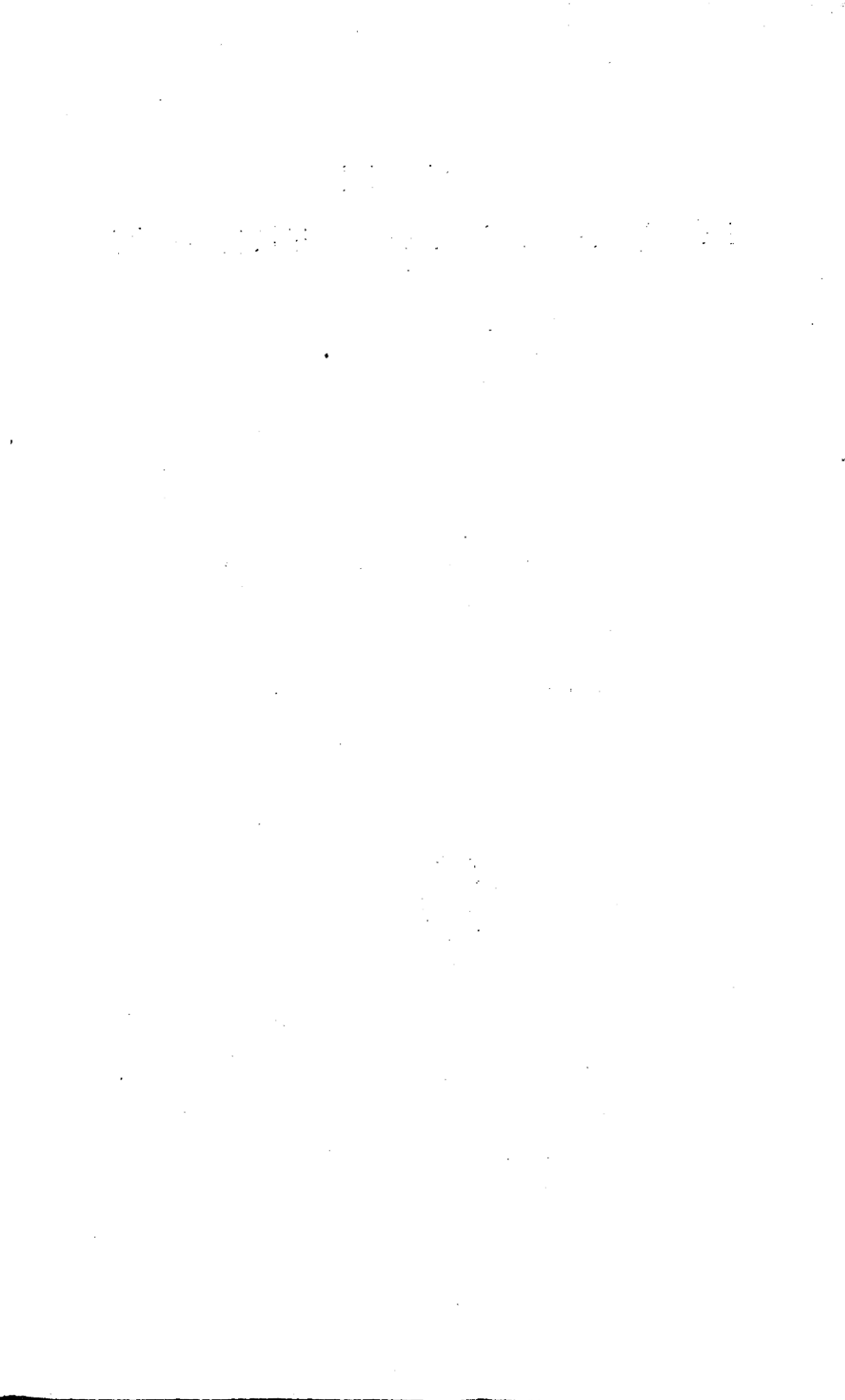
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The series of conferences held during the visit of the Foreign Secretary in the East were unique in the history of the Union and perhaps, in the range of interests covered, were new in the history of missionary organizations. It has seemed to the Executive Committee desirable that the body of resolutions covering so wide variety of interests should be preserved in a form convenient for reference and study by the executives and others at home who are interested in mission problems and by the mission bodies. They desire also to preserve in the same way the exposition by the Foreign Secretary of the very important subjects considered in the conferences.

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A VISIT TO MISSION CONFERENCES IN JAPAN, CHINA AND THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

INTRODUCTORY

I TAKE pleasure in presenting to you a report of the visit to mission fields of the Union in Japan, China and the Philippine Islands, which I have made in accordance with your instructions. As you are aware, the primary purpose of the journey was that of consultation with the missionary bodies in relation to general mission interests, rather than that of a study in detail of conditions in the several stations. Visits to representative stations supplemented the impressions gained in the meetings held. But the controlling purpose of the journey was that of conference with a view to securing the closest possible touch between the mission bodies and the home administration and a wise shaping of policies and plans in the interest of the highest efficiency in the rapidly changing conditions of the East.

Conferences were held at Tokyo in Japan, at Hanyang, Shanghai and Kityang in China and at Jaro in the Philippine Islands. Each conference was attended by a representative company. In the conference at Shanghai, missionaries were present from Central, West and South China as well as from the East China Mission. The meetings varied in length from four days in Central China to ten days in the Philippine Mission. Two sessions were appointed for each day, but in many cases a third session was found necessary because of the interest developed in the discussions and the multiplicity of interests considered.

The Journey

While, as I have said, the conferences have held the primary place in the journey, visits were made incidentally to nineteen of the twenty-six stations of the Union in the fields named. On the journey from Japan to Central China our way led

through Korea, southern Manchuria and northern China, and included a visit to Peking. At Shanghai opportunity was had for conference with Rev. Joseph Taylor and Rev. C. A. Salquist of the West China Mission with reference to conditions and needs in that field. Dr. Ferguson, in returning to India, paid a visit to Bangkok in Siam in company with Dr. J. M. Foster of Swatow. An informing report of conditions in our work in Siam has been put in the hands of the Executive Committee as a result of this visit.

Throughout the journey after reaching Japan I had the privilege of having with me Dr. J. L. Dearing and Dr. W. L. Ferguson, who were chosen recently as general missionaries of the Union. These brethren were welcomed to participation in all the conferences. Dr. Ferguson has not as yet indicated his acceptance of the position to which he was appointed, as he has desired that his decision should wait upon the conclusion reached after correspondence by the Committee with the members of the missions in Burma, Assam and Southern India. The mission bodies in the fields visited have expressed in their resolutions and in correspondence with the press their appreciation of the contribution brought by these brethren to the work of the conferences and to the homes of missionaries. I have a deep sense of personal obligation to them for what I have gained through their counsel and their fellowship.

Program of the Conferences

The topics treated in the conferences were of a wide range, effort being made to pass in review all outstanding interests of our work. Some items were passed with a few words of comment; in other cases discussion was protracted. The discussion included, in general, consideration of the relation of the mission body to administration, financial interests, the work of the general missionary, the relation of the mission body to the native Christian body, interdenominational relations, types of work—evangelistic, educational, medical and the preparation and publication of literature,—specific local problems and needs and interests personal to the missionary. The procedure followed involved, as a rule, first, an informal presentation of administrative policy; second, free discussion of the topic; third, the formulating of a statement of the judgment of the conference in case this was thought to be desirable.

At the opening of each of the conferences three principles were strongly emphasized:

- (1) That effort should be made to discover the ideal solu-

tion of all issues, consideration of the possibility of realizing the ideals being temporarily in abeyance.

(2) That absolute frankness and freedom should be shown by all, convictions being honestly expressed without regard to their personal or official bearing; this freedom was to be recognized not only as a right of all but as a sacred obligation in view of a common responsibility in the care of exalted interests.

(3) That while established rules of the Union were to be recognized loyally until modified or rescinded, it was to be assumed that there is no rule or practise of the Union which is not subject to change if change is shown to be desirable; that it is earnestly desired by the administration that if any policy or practise rests upon an arbitrary basis it shall be eliminated; that the best is earnestly desired and that in the quest for the best the fullest possible enlightenment will be gratefully welcomed and should not fail to be afforded.

It is a pleasure to bear testimony that these aims were realized in a marked degree. Every indication was given of freedom, thorough honesty and a controlling desire for ideal realization of the ends of missionary service.

True Principles Sought

Throughout the discussion effort was made to apprehend fundamental principles related to missionary work and to allow these to control the conclusion reached. It was a pleasant discovery that these vital principles seem to be few in number and that recognition of them is often of well-nigh magical efficacy in resolving problems otherwise intricate and baffling. I desire to bear testimony to the marvelously illuminating influence of one of these—a principle long recognized as sacred by members of Baptist churches—that of the direct personal relation and accountability of the individual soul to God. As in the personal life, so in missionary work, this principle is central and one who regards it will hardly go far astray. It is, in my judgment, to the recognition given to this principle more than to any other human influence that the unanimity of the conclusions reached in the conferences is to be ascribed.

I desire to express the keen personal satisfaction I have had in the closer acquaintance gained with our missionaries, in the harmonious relation between the administrative body and the missionary body which the conferences have at once revealed and cemented, and in the conviction that plans in view in the several fields are such as offer an unobstructed advance to a well-nigh unlimited service.

Resolutions Formulated

Resolutions adopted by the conferences have been forwarded to the Executive Committee. These were formulated not as a body of rules which should at once become controlling, but as a registration of sentiment which will be found serviceable by the Committee and the local conference in determining future action. In almost all cases votes were unanimous, however divergent the sentiment at the beginning of the discussion. It should be understood that the resolutions do not present a complete résumé either of discussions or of the judgment of the members of the several conferences. It was not designed that they should be comprehensive. When sentiment was in full accord with the prevailing policy and practise of the Union it was in many cases deemed unnecessary that an expression should be formulated. Adoption of resolutions was more common in the later conferences. The expressions made by the joint conferences at Shanghai were available in the meetings in South China and the Philippine Islands and in many cases served as a basis of study and formal action. In all conferences it was particularly asked that any desire for change in the practise of the Union should find expression in the resolutions.

Voluminous detailed records were preserved of the discussions of the conferences which will be available to the Executive Committee. It is believed that they will be found of no little value in securing that close touch between the Executive Committee and the mission bodies which is so greatly to be desired.

ADMINISTRATIVE RELATIONS

THE PRESENT PRACTISE OF THE UNION.

It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to carry into effect the votes of the Union and the instructions of the Board of Managers; to designate, by advice of the Board, the places where missions shall be attempted; to establish and superintend the same; to appoint and station the missionaries of the Union; to give any needful directions to the agents, missionaries, Secretaries and Treasurer, in the discharge of their duties; to make all appropriations to be paid out of the treasury.—*Constitution of Missionary Union, Section 12.*

An important step was taken in the early fall in submitting to the workers upon our mission fields the outline of a plan contemplating advisory action, on the part of mission conferences, upon all questions relating to financial appropriations or to the work of the several missions. The necessity for ultimate adoption of a plan of this character has long been realized both at home and by many upon the mission fields. The practise of dealing almost exclusively with individual workers, in the consideration of questions relating to the needs of the work, is subject to serious disadvantages, which have become more pronounced with the growth and increasing complexity of the work. The Committee have submitted a general plan, subject to modifications in view of diverse conditions upon the several fields. They have requested preliminary action in each of the mission conferences before the final perfecting and adoption of the plan. In submitting this plan in outline the Committee indicated as follows the general features regarded as essential:

(1.) Full acceptance by the Executive Committee of their just responsibility for final action relating to the work of the several fields, and for independent action if at any time in their judgment this seems to be wise.

(2.) Advisory action by each missionary conference as a whole on all important questions relating to the conduct of the work in its field, any committees of the conference having only advisory power.

(3.) Recognition of the right of appeal by individual missionaries from the conference to the Executive Committee.—*Annual Report of Missionary Union, 1900.*

The conference is asked to express advisory judgment upon all questions affecting the conduct of mission work, such as estimates for appropriations, designation, transfer and furlough of missionaries, erection of new buildings and the making of extensive repairs, and other specific questions referred to it by the Executive Committee or proposed by individual missionaries.—*Manual of Missionary Union, p. 25.*

In the discharge of its function of rendering advisory judgment to the Executive Committee, each mission conference elects a Committee of Reference. This committee is chosen in such way as each mission prefers.—*Manual of Missionary Union, p. 26.*

The reference committee is distinctively a committee of the conference, created that the representative sentiment of the conference may more readily find expression. It is not an agent of the Executive Committee, clothed with administrative powers. Its members have no authority over their fellow-missionaries. Their one duty is, after fraternal conference among themselves and with fellow-missionaries, to express a frank, impartial judgment upon the issues coming before them.

It is not designed that unanimity of action shall be urged, but that each member, after full deliberation and discussion, shall freely express his individual judgment. In case of a divided sentiment, reference committees are asked to indicate in their report the names of members casting a negative vote.—*Manual of Missionary Union, pp. 26, 27.*

The plan is favored by the Committee because believed to represent the nearest approach possible to a fraternal conference between its members and all members of the mission body. While leaving free the final judgment for which the Executive Committee is responsible, it unites mission bodies and the administration as one conferring company rather than two bodies with diverse interests.—*A Review of Conditions and Policies, p. 12.*

Responsibility for certain specific mission interests in each field is entrusted to selected members of the mission body. These are appointed for specified terms of service by the Executive Committee upon nomination by the mission conferences.

Administrative Relations

As agents of the Missionary Union, rather than of a single mission body, they are responsible directly to the Executive Committee, to whom report of their work is to be made. But, in view of the close relation of these specific interests to the work of all resident missionaries, it is provided that reports and records of action of trustees and committees shall be furnished to the conference, with a view to transmission to the Executive Committee of such comments and recommendations as the conference may desire to make.—*A Review of Conditions and Policies*, pp. 12, 13.

The higher educational institutions are administered by boards of trustees. These are responsible directly to the Executive Committee. But it is desired that all reports made by them shall be furnished to the mission conference, such suggestions as the conference shall desire to make being forwarded to the Executive Committee, together with the reports.—*Manual of Missionary Union*, p. 20.

References to Resolutions

Japan — p. 62, I: 1, 2; East China — p. 72, I: 1, 2; South China — p. 82, I: 1, 2; Philippine Islands — p. 89, I: 1, 2.

THE issue of administrative relations had very fraternal and extended consideration in the conferences. It is evident both that missionary administration should be based upon correct principles and that these principles should be clearly apprehended and cordially endorsed. In view of the vital and far-reaching character of the issue, I indicate quite fully the view recognized in the conferences which I think commanded a general and very hearty acceptance.

Responsibility of the Executive Committee

As indicated above, the constitution of the Union lays upon the Executive Committee, as appointed by its Board of Managers, responsibility for supervision and direction of its work. In discharging the responsibilities of their office the Executive Committee have recognized the importance of seeking all possible advantage from the experience and judgment of missionaries. In the plan adopted in the fall of 1899 provision was made for securing expression of judgment by missionary bodies in a systematic and representative way. In adopting this plan the Committee expressed their continued recognition of their responsibility under the constitution. It is obviously very important that the position of the Committee shall not be thought to involve an arbitrary exercise of authority. There is danger that mistake may be made as to this. Provision for administrative direction by home boards may seem abnormal,—a violation of the principle of individual accountability and of that of the independence of local ecclesiastical bodies.

It was understood by the conferences that it was the desire of the Executive Committee that this issue, like all others, should be discussed with entire frankness; that if change is desirable it should be sought; that nothing in missionary administration or practise should continue to be simply because it has been. It was seen, however, that the provision for administra-

tive bodies is traceable to the principle which must be regarded as rightfully controlling in all Christian relations and activities; for through this provision the individual Christian is enabled to discharge an obligation resting upon him in view of his direct personal relation with Christ.

The Genesis of Missionary Organization

It must be recognized that the work of a missionary organization is not primarily that of the missionary. He is indeed its chief asset. Its heaviest burdens and its perils fall to his lot. All right-minded men recognize that to discredit his position or to lay a needless burden upon him would be a grave wrong and a blunder. But the work is not primarily that of the missionary nor is it the work of the administrative bodies. It is primarily the work of a body of men and women associated in Christian churches who are seeking to discharge an obligation belonging to every servant of Christ. The thought that a relation of accountability on the part of missionaries is abnormal and in virtual violation of a consistent ecclesiastical policy results obviously from the impression that groups of missionaries associated together in mission fields are analogous to local churches which have independent control of their work. But a church is a self-constituted body composed of those voluntarily uniting with one another for promotion of the ends of Christian life and service. The relation of missionaries to one another, on the contrary, is accidental, resulting from acceptance of a common relation to a body of Christian men and women, members of Christian churches, who are seeking to fulfil a common responsibility. For discharge of this responsibility an organization is formed since associated effort promises greater effectiveness than individual activities. In this organization a general administrative body is created in which is vested the authority belonging to the constituency of the organization. To that constituency the administrative body is directly answerable. As the local church, while maintaining the equality of all members in relation to spiritual concerns, commits administrative responsibilities in the care of business interests to a body of trustees, so the constituency of a missionary or educational organization commits responsibility to certain selected men. The missionary is an agent of the administrative body because to this body responsibility is committed by the constituency whose convictions and support the work represents. The position of official subordination is not peculiar to the missionary; it is shared by executive officers at home, workers in home-mission societies, and teachers in educational institutions. The

subordination involved in the position is strictly not of men but of functions, each function being essential to the accomplishment of the end which the organization represents. Each agent accepts the relation voluntarily. He is free to choose an independent work but he allies himself with an organization because he believes that through its associated activities, rather than through individual life plans, his largest service may be achieved.

The Work of the Administrative Body and the Missionary Body Complementary

It was recognized in the conferences that the form of organization common to missionary societies has a just claim upon confidence and support, not only because it is the expression of the will of the constituency but because it secures for missionary interests a twofold contribution, both elements of which are indispensable to an ideal success. The contribution made in the advisory action of local mission bodies is of vital importance. The missionary's first-hand acquaintance with local conditions, his experience and judgment, are an invaluable asset in missionary administration. But the administrative body at home supplies also an element essential to the highest effectiveness. For limitations attach to the position of the local missionary. Its very advantages involve disadvantages. A close acquaintance with conditions and needs in a given locality, friendship with fellow missionaries,—these affect perspective and embarrass freedom of action. Missionaries have written strongly of the influence of these limitations. Their intense interest in local conditions, personal susceptibilities, the equality of missionaries of all degrees of experience, the fact that a majority vote must control, absences through remoteness of residence, illness or furlough—are all elements affecting the satisfactoriness of missionary action.

The disadvantages of the administrative body through its remoteness from the field, on the other hand, have compensating advantages. Its freedom from complicating local influences, its touch with many mission interests, its view of the work as a whole, its relations with other mission bodies, its direct accountability to the constituency who may at any time investigate its work,—contribute to a service of great value to missionary interests. Problems new to one mission have been solved in other fields. Contributions from many sources of information converge in the mission rooms. The complementary work of the two agencies, in which each contributes that which the other cannot supply, is an ideal for which all interested in Christian missions have reason to be grateful. It is increas-

ingly evident that missionary problems are not related exclusively to conditions in local mission fields. They involve principles with which intelligent men in all lands are gaining increasing acquaintance. Issues as to educational work, development of recognition of the equal dignity of races, promotion of world fraternity,—are problems demanding a contribution from the best thought and intelligence at home as well as from local experience and judgment.

It is evident that these considerations are given increasing force by the world-movements characterizing the present day. Now, as never before, missions are seen to be not segregated interests but parts of one whole. All should benefit by the highest ascertainable ideals. To this great enterprise and the one world civilization which it is developing our own land owes the best contribution which wise choice of advisers can secure.

It is obvious that the two bodies represented in mission work have common interests. Their relation should be that of mutual confidence, frankness and unbroken fraternity.

In the several conferences the issue as to the seat of administrative authority was discussed in the most fraternal way and with the very slightest divergence of sentiment. No direct vote was taken on the underlying issue, but there appeared to be no desire for a change in policy. Indeed, satisfaction was expressed that the plan is as it is. A remark, cited from the records of one of the conferences, is true I think to a practically universal sentiment,—“The vesting of final authority in a body at home, is most beneficial.”

Information Essential for Administration Work

It is apparent that recognition of administrative responsibility as borne by the Executive Committee must have very important bearing upon general administrative issues. The tie binding the Committee to the mission body must be very close. If the Committee are to discharge their responsibility they must have the fullest obtainable light as to conditions in the field. If they were to be deprived of light one of two things must follow: either they would be left to formal ratification of the advisory action upon the field and thus have no true part in administration or they must act unintelligently at the risk of embarrassment to the work. So far as the trust reposed by the constituency of the society in the Committee involves more than the work of a collecting and transmitting agency, the fullest possible light from the field is indispensable.

The resolutions included in the records of action by the conferences relate to two provisions in the practise of the Union:

(1.) That in the advisory action of the mission conferences negative votes shall be recorded and reported to the Executive Committee by name.

(2.) That committees upon the field entrusted with the care of educational, financial or other general interests shall make report of their work to the Executive Committee without change in these reports by the conference.

The two provisions, while incidental, are closely related to the plan of administration under which the work of the Union is conducted. Their purpose plainly is to afford light to the administrative body for intelligent discharge of its responsibilities.

Report of Negative Votes

The provision for the recording and reporting of negative votes results naturally and directly from the administrative responsibility of the Executive Committee. A report of majority action would not afford the light imparted by a knowledge of individual missionary sentiment. Learning the judgment of each member of the mission body the Executive Committee has in a measure the advantage that would be afforded by presence with the mission company. This ideal, that administrative action shall represent the nearest approach possible to a fraternal conference between the Committee and all members of the mission body, received endorsement in the expression of judgment by the conferences that in all reports of advisory action as made to the Executive Committee negative votes shall be recorded by name. (p. 72, I; I. p. 82, I; I).

The Status of General Committees

The provision that trustees of educational institutions and other general committees shall make report to the Executive Committee, like the provision for report of negative votes, results from recognition of the administrative responsibility of the Executive Committee. It is obvious that a responsible administrative body must have agents for realizing its plans and that to these agents it should sustain a direct relation. Certain general interests require the creation of distinctive agencies. Educational work and property interests are examples of this need. For these interests selected men have been appointed by the Executive Committee upon nomination by the mission bodies. The plan followed by the Union provides that reports of

trustees and general committees of the mission shall be forwarded to the Executive Committee, but shall be furnished also to the mission conference for such comment or supplementary suggestion as the conference may desire to make.

Prior to the recent conferences a practise differing from that favored by the administration had developed in some mission fields. This was indicated in an admirable statement made in the conference in Japan: "The conference has generally taken for granted that while the Executive Committee has a right to veto the choice made upon the field for service upon these committees, yet the committees were properly committees of the conference, and the conference was under obligation to amend the reports of these committees before they were sent home if they did not express the views of the majority of the conference." The point of divergence of the two views appears in the procedure to be followed in the transmission of reports to the Executive Committee. In the plan favored by the Committee reports are transmitted without amendment, though the conference is asked to make such recommendations supplementary to the report as it may desire. In the alternative plan the Executive Committee would receive reports only in such amended form as might be approved by the Conference.

It was recognized by the conferences that the plan disfavored by the Executive Committee is open to two objections. On the one hand, exercise of veto power by a conference withholds light from the administrative body. The judgment of men selected because of superior qualification for direction of educational work or other important administrative duties obviously should be known by the Committee. Again, the plan is not just to the mission body in that the judgment of men chosen because of recognized superior technical qualifications is made subject to reversal by the average judgment of the conference. It is apparent that the position of the trustees of educational institutions and similar committees would be nominal, not real. The trusteeship would be vested in the entire mission body, those fitted by endowment and experience to discharge the trust wisely having only such voice as those without technical endowment or maturity of experience.

The Conclusion Reached

While in two of the conferences favor was shown at first to the plan of mission trusteeship, the prevailing sentiment supported the practise endorsed by the Executive Committee, and in the later conferences there was practically no divergence of view. It is asked, however, that, while their reports are sent without

modification to the Executive Committee, the trustees and special committees shall be regarded as joint representatives of the Executive Committee and the conference. I would heartily recommend that this suggestion be adopted as a fitting recognition of the intimate relation of these committees to the conference as well as to the Executive Committee. (p 62 I: p 72 I: 2, 3; p 82, I: 2; p 89, I: 2).

In general, it is a pleasure to record that a full consideration of the issues related to missionary administration resulted in hearty endorsement of the general policy and practise of the Union. Apparently there is in the fields genuine satisfaction with this policy as representing a true ideal of administrative fraternity.

It is, however, in my judgment, very important that the power of immediate and final action upon the field shall be extended as far as possible, particularly in cases in which delay for action at home would involve embarrassment. Emergency action is provided for in some cases, as, e. g., in illness, but consideration of the practicability of more extended use of this power is highly desirable. I have stated that the Committee were in hearty sympathy with this thought, and have asked that suggestion be made of points at which the exercise of independent power is desirable. Few suggestions were made in the conferences, but I trust that further communications concerning this may be received from the mission fields. (cf. p 62, I: 2.)

MINOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

THE PRESENT PRACTISE OF THE UNION.

Appropriations for the purchase of property or for repair or erection of buildings are made directly to the missionary concerned, to be expended by him under the advisory supervision of the property committee of the mission.—*Manual of Missionary Union*, p. 63.

Individual missionaries are responsible for the care of property in the several stations, but in each mission field a property committee is appointed by the Executive Committee of the Union, nomination being made by the conference. The function of this committee is that of considering all technical details relating to property, as the purchase of land, arrangement of mission compounds, estimates for new buildings and repairs, etc.—*Manual of Missionary Union*, p. 27.

It shall be the province of the property committee to supervise the carrying out of plans adopted by the Executive Committee for erection of buildings or extensive repairs. No plan for building shall be adopted, and no land shall be purchased or sold without approval of this committee, except by special authorization of the Executive Committee.—*Manual of Missionary Union*, pp. 27, 28.

It is the purpose of the Executive Committee, as quickly as resources permit this, to provide for each mission a superintendent of building, whose time shall be devoted exclusively to property interests. It is designed that the property committee shall work in co-operation with the superintendent, responsibility still remaining with that committee.—*Manual of Missionary Union*, pp. 28, 29.

The Executive Committee of the Union are glad at all times to furnish donors with a list of specific needs recognized upon the fields and at home as of urgent importance. Solicitation of specific gifts, whether for support of native preachers, erection of buildings or for other purposes, is not permissible except as definite authorization of this is made by the Executive Committee.

It is believed that a truly enlightened loyalty will lead the missionary to disfavor gifts for local uses which have not received endorsement by the mission body and the Executive Committee, and to seek to turn these gifts to the general treasury.

A different policy would be unfair to fellow-missionaries and would deprive the Union of an asset upon which it may rightfully rely and upon which avoidance of debt, missionary support and maintenance of the entire work are dependent,—viz., the influence of personal esteem and friendship for the missionary in promoting missionary offerings.—*Manual of Missionary Union*, p. 67.

Provision is made by the Executive Committee for auditing the accounts of mission treasurers and educational and other institutions serving the mission at large. Missionaries are asked to conform to the special rules adopted in the mission fields with which they are connected for review of individual accounts before these are forwarded to the Treasurer of the Missionary Union.—*Manual of Missionary Union*, pp. 29, 30.

References to Resolutions

Japan—pp 62, 63, I: 2-9; Central China—p 71 I: 2, 3; East China—pp 72, 73, I: 3-11; South China p 82, 83, I: 4-11; Philippine Islands—pp 89, 90, I: 3-10

UNDER the general issue of administration certain points were considered to which brief reference should be made.

Minor Issues in Administration

(1) The desirability of conducting the work of the reference committee with open doors rather than with secrecy. In view of the fact that this committee is in theory the conference, being chosen by the conference as its representative body, the desirability of the utmost openness is apparent.

(2) The scope of the reference committee's action. The view that this action should be limited to cases definitely referred to the Committee was held by some. It is wiser, I think, that all

interests should be regarded as within the scope of the survey of this committee, with the single provision that its action shall not restrict the freedom of the individual in his relations with the mission body or in correspondence with the Executive Committee.

(3) The property committee. In the practise hitherto followed by the Union, while the property committee has had general oversight of property interests, appropriations for building have been made to the individual missionary. This practise is due to the strong individualism conspicuous in the history of the Union. The sense of individual responsibility is unquestionably helpful and should be promoted as fully as possible. The rules of the Union have provided that the judgment of the property committee shall be regarded in all building interests, yet embarrassment has arisen in expenditures of money in ways not approved by this committee. The property committee has felt the need of a more definite form of control. The conferences believe that this should be given, and ask that transmission to the individual by the mission treasurer of money designed for property uses shall be subject to endorsement by the property committee. It was recognized in the conferences that all property is primarily an investment of the Union, and that plans followed in building should be determined by a general committee rather than by the preference of the individual, who, in the changes constantly occurring, may never occupy the new quarters. The resolutions adopted are in the interest of fuller recognition of this principle. It is important that the property Committees shall include one or more representatives of the women's societies that their judgment as to the needs of their work may have full expression. (p 72, I: 4; p 82, I: 4; p 89, I: 3.)

(4) Appointment of a mission builder. In the larger mission fields this is indispensable as a measure of economy and as a relief to missionaries who now are suffering from serious inroads upon time that should be given to their normal work. In certain cases joint action with other societies in appointment of a builder would be desirable. (p 73, I: 9.)

Financial Issues

Certain financial issues claimed the attention of the conferences:

(1) Unauthorized Expenditures. I referred to the embarrassment created for the missionary and the Executive Committee by unauthorized expenditures and by expenditures which exceed appropriations made by the Committee. I stated that the Committee were compelled to follow the rule of making provision

for the unauthorized expenditure only in cases in which they believe they would have been justified in sanctioning the expenditure in an original consideration of the issue. It was asked that a special form of notification shall be prepared indicating the inability of the Executive Committee to assume responsibility in case the appropriation made is exceeded.

(2) *Emergency Fund.* A difficulty encountered in extension of local power of independent action is found in the fact that such action as a rule involves a financial outlay which cannot be large without occasioning embarrassment to the Executive Committee in the use of the funds at their disposal. Provision of an emergency fund upon which drafts may be made under direction of the reference committee is proposed as relieving this embarrassment. I would recommend that such a fund be constituted in the mission fields. (p 63, I: 7; p 73, I: 10; p 83, I: 9; p 90, I: 8.)

(3) *Appropriations in Gross.* I suggested to each of the conferences that consideration be given by them to the desirability of a plan providing for the making of appropriations in gross for distribution in accordance with the judgment of the conference, as a substitute for the present plan of direct appropriation to the individual missionary. At present the conferences, with a single exception, review individual estimates, but the appropriation is a transaction between the Executive Committee and the individual. I stated that the Executive Committee would be glad to propose for formal adoption a plan of appropriations in gross. In each of the conferences, however, appreciation of the personal delicacy of the situation resulting from adoption of the plan was strong, and resolutions expressing unanimous preference for the present plan were adopted. In two of the conferences action was so far reconsidered as to provide for further consideration of the issue. This, I think, is very desirable. (p 62, I: 5; p 72, I: 5; p 83, I: 8; p 90, I: 5.)

(4) *Specifics.* The resolution adopted in South China merits careful study by all mission bodies and by supporters of mission work. The principle indicated in the manual, as quoted at the beginning of this chapter, is very weighty. (p 83, I: 10; p 90, I: 9.)

(5) *Auditing of Accounts.* Definite provision is made in the practise of the Union for auditing accounts of mission treasurers and of general institutions. The auditing of individual accounts is more difficult, as, for example, in the securing of vouchers. Yet some form of review of accounts of individual missionaries is plainly desirable. This view was strongly held

in all of the conferences. It was recognized that the practise constitutes protection for the missionary rather than a reflection upon him. At present in most of the missions discharge of this service by the reference committee is found desirable. In other cases one or two persons are appointed to serve as auditors. (p 63, I: 9; p 71, I: 3; p 73, I: 11; p 83, I: 11; p 90, I: 10.)

(6) Upkeep of Churches. Attention was called in the conferences to a rule recently adopted that the charges for maintenance and repair of churches and chapel buildings are to be borne by the native body. Regard for this principle facilitates the securing of contributions for erection of church buildings so greatly needed in the larger centers of work. Under straitened financial conditions donors may naturally question whether it is a wise policy to give money for construction of buildings if they are adding to the current liabilities of the Union.

(7) Loans to Churches. Requests for such loans were received in Japan. The use of invested funds for this purpose would not be legitimate. If a loan fund could be secured it would be serviceable in many cases. (p. 63, I: 8.)

(8) Favorable Exchange. The importance of taking advantage of favorable rates of exchange in China was emphasized in the conferences. During the past year the dollar gold commanded upwards of \$2.40 Mexican. At times the rate has fallen as low as \$1.70 Mexican. It is obvious that purchase of properties at the time of favorable exchange may be very advantageous, yet an attempt to follow the market involves hazard and the keeping of considerable sums in banks of the country. Lack of funds at home also embarrasses. The conferences recognized these difficulties, yet very fittingly commended the subject to the attention of the Committee.

Adoption of safeguards against wide variation in missionary salaries, due to fluctuations in exchange, also merits careful consideration.

(9) Use of favorable opportunities for purchase of land. In view of the rapid increase in property values in some sections, early purchase of land at important centres with provision for the expansion that must come to a successful work, is highly desirable. It is painful to find important interests of many societies hopelessly cramped for lack of accommodation that might have been afforded at slight cost in the initiation of the enterprise.

THE GENERAL MISSIONARY

THE WORK IN VIEW.

It is not designed that the general missionary shall be an overseer. No man of the spirit to be sought in such a representative would be willing to be this.—*Annual Report of Missionary Union, 1908, p. 59.*

The plan is not intended to modify the functions of mission conferences and their reference committees in relation to administration. Rather it is confidently believed that it will constitute a crowning feature of the system of advisory action by mission bodies which will be recognized as more and more indispensable to its efficiency. . . . The mission body and all its members will sustain the same relation to the administration now sustained. Yet it is anticipated that the work of the general missionary will afford much relief to brethren burdened with the multiplying demands of general interests which have absorbed the time they have desired to give more uninterruptedly to their distinctive stations.—*Annual Report, 1908, p. 60.*

The relation of the general missionary and the reference committee, like the relation of the general missionary and the individual members of the mission body, will be that of mutual interchange of thought and helpful service. . . .

The general missionary's touch with all interests will make his visits increasingly informing and helpful to all. . . .

He will constitute a medium of interchange of all that is most valuable and helpful in ideals and methods in the mission fields to which his work extends and in the aims controlling the Executive Committee. . . .

In personal relations with fellow missionaries the influence of the general missionary will be strong in promoting a clear understanding of the purposes of the Committee and in furtherance of the ideals cherished by them. . . .

The visit will give to isolated stations a new sense of relationship to the common work.—*Letter to Burma and South India, December, 1908.*

The needs of the mission will have reinforced presentation to the Executive Committee and the reinforcement will extend to the more definite public presentation at home of the interests of each mission. This phase of the work of the general missionary has been very prominent in the thought of the Committee.—*Letter to Burma and South India, December, 1908.*

It would be difficult to over-estimate a further advantage anticipated from the work of the general missionaries—that of relief and assistance to the Executive Committee. It is not easy for one not directly connected with the work of the Committee to appreciate the perplexities of their task as they deal with interests so remote and appeals so innumerable and bring to these needs so limited financial resources. . . .

Charged with the duty of surveying all needs, the general missionary may safeguard the Committee and the secretaries from unwitting inattention to any interests. His services may be commanded for visits to points of critical importance or for other special duties without the hazard involved in neglect of more primary responsibilities. . . .

Given a man intelligent, of warm fraternal feeling, of broad information, in touch with all sections of the field, with the conference and reference committee of the mission and the home administration, and with time at command for visits without sacrifice of individual responsibilities, it would seem that possibilities of fraternal service are so great that it is not easy adequately to characterize them.—*Letter to Burma and South India, December, 1908.*

Want of fraternity is not only utterly foreign in general to the purpose of the administrative bodies, it is peculiarly foreign to this action. The hope and expectation controlling in the adoption of the measure is that it will unite the home administration more closely with the mission bodies, enlarge their knowledge of needs upon the mission field and their power to give wise direction and effective support to missionary effort.—*Letter to Burma and South India, December, 1908.*

It has been the purpose of the Committee that the specific functions of the general missionary should be determined only after a conference on the field, with the idea that the point of view of the missionaries and the point of view of the home administration might be united in securing from the general missionary the service that would be of greatest value both on the field and at home.—*Letter to Burma and South India, December, 1908.*

References to Resolutions

Japan—p. 63, II: 1-3; Central China—p. 71, II; East China—p. 74, II: 1, 2; South China—p. 84, II: 1, 2; Philippine Islands—p. 90, II: 1, 2.

I WRITE of this subject with some hesitation in view of the sentiment expressed in correspondence from Burma and South India in respect to the plan for service by the general missionaries. I would not attempt to anticipate the result reached in the fraternal consideration due to these communications. On the contrary, I recognize that the proposed work would lose fatally in effectiveness if it were to lack the free assent of mission bodies. I write only that I may bring to the general issue such light as was afforded by my visit.

A Full Discussion Sought

The issue was debated with great frankness and fulness in each of the conferences. I stated that it was the desire of the Executive Committee that the subject should have thorough discussion and that determination of details of the plan was to be deferred until report from the conferences was received. I desire to express the gratification afforded me by the spirit in which the discussion was conducted, the unanimity of the action taken and the recognition accorded by all to the fraternal purpose controlling the Executive Committee in their adoption of the plan. The action of the Conferences as reported in the resolutions was unanimous. (p. 63, II: 1; p. 71, II; p. 74, II: 1; p. 84, II: 1; p. 90, II: 1.)

Impressions received in the journey give me confidence that this new agency will be found truly helpful in all fields in which its work is welcomed. For both the Executive Committee and mission conference it can scarcely fail to secure a larger range of vision and correspondingly enhanced power of service. The Executive Committee will secure closer acquaintance with the fields and fuller light upon administrative problems. My consciousness of personal gain through the visit in the power to afford information to the Executive Committee assures me of this. It has given such acquaintance with conditions as correspondence could not have afforded. To secure continuity in this form of personal communication between the mission fields and the mission rooms would be a great good. Appointment of traveling representatives is found practically indispensable by Western business houses having branches in the East. This is not thought of as involving reflection upon these agencies but is recognized as a normal and ideal provision. My conviction of the increasing complexity and the unrivaled

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importance of missionary interests is the measure of my desire that missionary administration may not lack the relief and assistance afforded by this relation.

The General Missionary and the Mission Conference

Not less valuable, I think, is the relation of the general missionary to the mission conference. He brings to its deliberations a new contribution; standing a little apart from the local work he holds a position allied to that of one looking upon a landscape from a height; such an one is less familiar with local scenery but is at an advantage in a survey of the region as a whole. The duties of the general missionary give him familiarity with ideals and plans of the Executive Committee and with the general conditions affecting their work. This information modifies views and thus influences the action of the conference. Costly delays are avoided. The general missionary becomes a channel of communication between widely separated stations and the mission conference or the reference committee. Indispensable as these agencies are they do not insure close contact between the several stations of the field and the mission body as a whole. As attendance upon the conference is voluntary long periods may pass in which some station has slight contact with its fellows. And not only mission stations, but other fields of the Union and missions of other organizations are brought into helpful relation to each of the local conferences. Many sources of information are laid under tribute. In the later conferences visited by us allusions were constant to methods in many fields seen in the earlier part of the journey, to material and plans in building, to details of station equipment and methods of missionary administration. Each local conference thus becomes a center of information from widely separated sections. Confidence in the power of the general missionary to render a distinctive service does not imply a claim to personal endowment superior to that of his fellow missionaries. His advantage is that of opportunity for wide acquaintance with general missionary interests, an advantage which from the nature of missionary work cannot be enjoyed by all, but which enjoyed by one may benefit all.

Authority not Requisite for a True Service

The conferences have left with me the strong impression that the type of service suggested for the general missionary has been wisely chosen. The provision, I think, is wise that the function of the new agency shall not involve exercise of

authority. Such prerogative would be likely to embarrass the work of the general missionary, restraining that free interchange of thought and opinion in which all will find satisfaction. And provision for exercise of authority is unnecessary. No other fact was made plainer in the conferences than that their one outstanding need is the same with the outstanding need at home, that of securing all possible light upon mission problems. The desire to apprehend and appropriate the best was strongly in evidence. The unanimity of action in the conferences is an indication of this.

The value of the service of the general missionary, I think, is not to be thought of as less real because he is without official authority. It is obvious that two forms of influence may be exercised by men upon their fellows: one, that of authority, the other that of personality. The general missionary, fitted by personal endowment for his work and enriched by experience and the information which it secures to him, should have large influence of the latter type. It follows, I think, that his work will have its greatest value in the contributions made by him in a purely natural way to the deliberation and action of the mission conferences. Whatever information is supplied by him will become a part of the common stock and as such will have normal influence in missionary action.

My conviction is strengthened by experiences of the journey that the perils apprehended in adoption of this plan are not seriously to be feared. To believe otherwise would be to imply a great change not only in the character of men likely to be chosen for this service but in the spirit of mission bodies. A mission conference affords a difficult sphere for exercise of autocratic tendencies. I can imagine nothing more certain to be automatically self-corrective than any tendency to an autocratic spirit appearing in one who should fill this office. Dissatisfaction would result at once in the mission body and the general missionary would be without power to do his work. I cannot but think that it would be truly unfortunate if the large possibilities of good offered in the new agency were to be refused because of apprehension of a peril attaching equally to all agencies related to mission work and which is safeguarded by powerful influences committing both home and field to the spirit of Christian brotherhood.

A Growing Conviction of Need

Plans for a form of service allied to that of the general missionary are enlisting wide attention at the present time. The conditions commending this so strongly to the Missionary Union

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are bringing it to the attention of other missionary organizations. From two leading American mission boards in which adoption of a plan similar to that chosen by the Union is in contemplation, I learn that the necessity for this is felt to be irresistible both at home and by many members of the mission bodies.

An extended report has just come to hand prepared by a gentleman in England who recently visited China as a representative of the London Missionary Society. His report is in the form of "A Paper on Mission Policy, Organization and Administration in China." This paper has been published "for private circulation." Some of its suggestions apply so directly to the subject under consideration by the Union that I add them to this chapter as affording an indication of the wide recognition given to the importance of securing for mission work such aid as is sought by appointment of the General Missionary.

"I look upon it as a weakness in missionary societies that although in almost every department, each has some men who are doing model work, which might well be taken as a standard for the whole, they have no machinery for bringing inferior work up to the level of the best.

"It is curious to note how in the same society some of the worst as well as some of the very best educational work may be seen.

"The super-able man is complete by himself and is independent of helps which are indispensable to the less able but when his grasp weakens and there is no equally strong personality to take his place only a sound system would carry on the momentum of his energy.

"Is it not true that in many societies the work as a whole is not the unit nor is the work of the district nor even of a station; but often the unit is the work of the individual. The fragments now require to be welded together so that the whole and not part form this unit.

"It seems to me essential in the case of all societies whose work extends over a wide area that one man at least should know the work as a whole. Coordination can not be successful unless some one man has a grip of the whole work. There must be a focal point. I offer no advice as to the authority which this man ought to possess but his value to the home board and to the individual worker could hardly fail to be of the greatest.

"Societies need a definite policy and a fixed ideal for each district towards which those in charge of the same should keep steadily working.

"There should be increased facilities for intercommunication between missionaries and mission stations. For lack of this the same experience is purchased over and over again.

"On the human side I largely base my hopes of success in any scheme of reorganization which may be undertaken upon the high average ability of missionaries. Almost every kind of talent required for the successful accomplishment of the great task is to be found amongst them. Add to this that in the field are to be found examples of work worthy to be accepted as models for the whole, and it will be seen that most societies are well equipped with at least two vital essentials to success, viz.: men and models."

It is a pleasure to testify of those chosen as general mission-

aries that their conception of their work is in strict accord with the ideals of which I have written.

Provisions as to Relations and Work of the General Missionary

As respects definition of the relations to be held to the Conference by the General Missionary the one essential obviously is that he shall have such freedom as shall enable him to render in the fullest possible degree the distinctive service which it is in his power to give. The suggestions made in the resolutions provide for access to sessions of the conferences and the reference committees. Resolutions in South China very properly suggest that private sessions of these bodies may be desirable, even at times when the general missionary is at hand. It is well that this should be recognized, yet it is obvious that freedom of access to the conferences in general is essential for helpful interchange of views. Failure to provide for this relation would involve denial to the conferences of the benefit of the information possessed by the general missionary, and denial to him of the benefit of the views of the conference.

The conferences responded to the request that suggestions be made regarding the functions of the general missionary. These are embodied in the resolutions passed, and will have consideration by the Committee. (p 64, II: 2; p 74, II: 2; p 84, II: 2; p 91, II: 2.)

I would recommend that among such other provisions as may be deemed desirable the following be embodied in rules for this work in Japan, China and the Philippine Islands:

That the work of the general missionary shall be related to all missionaries and to all mission interests, but not to the native Christian body with whom he shall have no official relation.

That he shall visit the several fields and stations as frequently as practicable and shall seek to familiarize himself with all mission interests.

That abstracts of all correspondence received by the Executive Committee from Japan, China and the Philippine Islands shall be furnished to him in the same form in which they are furnished to members of the Sections of the Executive Committee.

That missionaries shall be invited to correspond freely with the general missionary so far as they may deem this desirable with a view to supplementing the information given through the abstracts.

That the general missionary shall maintain correspondence with the Mission Rooms and shall make to the Executive Committee a regular quarterly report of his work.

That in case any communication made to the Executive

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Committee contains recommendations affecting important interests of any mission, he shall send a copy of the letter to the mission conference or its reference committee.

That letters sent from the Mission Rooms to the general missionary, if relating to important interests of any mission, shall be furnished to the mission conference or its reference committee.

That no action shall be taken by the Executive Committee upon any important recommendation of the general missionary until full opportunity has been afforded for hearing from the conference whose interests are affected and that in case the judgment of the conference conflicts with that of the general missionary, the Executive Committee shall confer further with the conference before final action is taken.

That the general missionary and the conference shall seek such cooperation as shall make their work mutually helpful.

That each conference or reference committee shall be asked to appoint a committee of not less than three members for consultation with the general missionary as occasion may render this desirable.

That it shall be expected that the general missionary will be present at meetings of conferences or other committees when he is in the mission field except when private sessions are thought desirable.

That provision shall be made for frequent visits to this country by the general missionary.

That when in this country he shall be given all possible facility for bringing the needs of mission work in the fields represented by him to public attention

That, during his stay in this country, he shall be invited to be present at meetings of the Executive Committee so far as other duties may permit this.

THE MISSION AND THE NATIVE BODY

IDEALS EMPHASIZED BY THE UNION

(Extracts from "*A Review of Conditions and Policies of the Missionary Union*," pp. 18-22.)

The aim of the missionary involves as an indispensable requisite the development of a company of native disciples by whom the work shall increasingly be prosecuted and to whom in due time it may permanently be committed.

Fundamental Ideals.—Recognition of the distinctness of the two bodies associated in the mission field. While united by closest bonds of Christian fellowship, they yet represent relations radically different. The one represents and is responsible to a constituency in another land. The other belongs to, and represents the hope of, the mission land. In proportion as mission work is successful, the one body will decrease in strength—the other will increase. The entire interest of the mission body is in the growth of the native body.

Early establishment of local churches—the divinely constituted agency for Christian nurture and development of efficiency in Christian service.

Discharge of genuine functions of the church by the local church—self-administration, reception and dismissal of members, observance of the ordinances, maintenance and support of worship. Pastors should be directly related to churches and not to the mission body.

Unfailing inculcation of the responsibilities of Christian discipleship—stewardship in the use of money and personal participation in Christian work.

Development of missionary conviction, and maintenance by natives of an associated work of missionary extension.

The New Movement for Independence Now Appearing in the East Accentuates the Importance of Fidelity to Right Ideals.—This spirit for a time, even in Christian disciples, may manifest itself in erratic, impulsive, unwholesome tendencies.

It may take the form of demand that administration of funds contributed by churches in this country shall be in the hands of natives—a demand opposed to recognition of true relations in mission work.

The situation is incidental to the readjustment of life in the East. It is not an indication that the missionary's work is done.

The new tendency, whatever embarrassment it may create, is not justification for withdrawal from missionary work so long as the missionary's aid is needed. It is rather a demand for solving the problem of continuance that the trust imposed by Christ may be discharged. The difficulty should be challenged and conquered in the name of Christian brotherhood.

Where true ideals have been followed, embarrassment will be at its minimum. Churches will have been honored as self-governing from the beginning. The people will not soon desire to be relieved of the presence of a helper and friend.

References to Resolutions

Japan — p. 64, 65, III, East China — p. 74 — III; South China — p. 84 — III; Philippine Islands — p. 91 — III.

THIS issue is not failing to enlist attention on the mission fields. World-conditions are giving it powerful emphasis. They bear witness that a new era of social and political unrest and of national and individual self-assertion has been reached. The permanence of the change does not admit of question. It is plain that the day of contented political subserviency to the West and of contented acceptance of anything regarded as a foreign domination in religious life is swiftly passing away. The situation has obvious lessons for those who deal with international political problems. I find it difficult to ex-

press adequately my sense of the importance of its lessons for all who have to do with the conduct of missionary work. In one aspect these lessons are reassuring, for they show that the aim of mission work is identical with the aim which we must believe to be controlling in this providential world-movement. The two great developments, the movement of God in history, as now disclosed, and the movement of God in the work of Christian missions, run parallel. In the former is seen the awakening of the individual to consciousness of the inherent rights of man as man; the aim of the latter is the realization of moral and spiritual manhood. It is fortunate that the most potent corrective of embarrassments resulting in mission work from the new spirit of unrest is to be found, not in new devices, but in a simple fidelity to the ideals always fundamental in a true missionary effort. This aim in theory is universally recognized; the missionary body is a scaffolding; the native body is the edifice; the glory of the scaffolding is attained when the hour for its removal is reached. To be true to this ideal is the task of the missionary, a task to the early accomplishment of which the new conditions are powerfully inciting him. It was in the light of these considerations, that the problem of the mutual relations of the mission body and the native body was studied in the conferences. Gratifying testimony was given to the fraternal relations sustained by the two bodies in all our mission fields. Yet the increasing seriousness of the problem was recognized. It is my conviction that it would be impossible to emphasize too strongly the importance of attention to this issue, on the mission field and at home.

Three Vital Principles

I desire to emphasize three points as in my judgment deserving of immediate and unintermittent attention:

I. The instrumentalities appointed by Christ for Christian nurture and promotion of Christian growth should not fail to be secured for all Christian disciples. Here a twofold obligation appears:

1. The duty of promoting genuine, independent, self-administering local churches.
2. The duty of promoting a true ideal and practise in financial support of Christian worship and work.

Church Organization Indispensable

I am convinced that the missionary can have no higher obligation or interest than that of securing for Christian disciples

a real participation in the privileges and responsibilities of genuine church-membership. He should promote the constitution of churches at the earliest possible time and should in all practicable ways honor them as self-governing. The local church is an institution divinely provided for promotion of a normal Christian development. Its responsibilities — choice of a pastor and other church officers, reception and dismissal of members, maintenance of church discipline, observance of Christian ordinances, have a great educative value. The apostolic missionary movement made prompt use of this agency. Responsibility is the best of teachers. The people who are weakest need this training most. Much risk of errors in judgment and in practise may wisely be taken rather than to deprive Christian disciples of the gains which result from the relations and activities belonging to a self-administered Christian church, taught to recognize the sacredness of its responsibility to itself and to Christ. I have noted one tendency which seems to me unfortunate, that of deferring organization of churches and recognition of their independence until a position of self-support is reached. It is wise rather, I think, that the two issues should be recognized as distinct. Confusion between them would not be favored in the case of churches at home; here the autonomy of the local church is recognized, even though assistance from without is regarded as necessary. Promotion of self-support is to be sought very earnestly. But responsibility in general church administration is a distinct issue and is to be sought as a good indispensable for Christian development.

Promotion of Self-Support

Yet the second principle noted above — that of promotion of support of Christian worship and work — is vitally essential to a true Christian development. The spirit of willing dependence is fatal both to Christian manhood and to Christian influence. Freedom from dependence upon foreign funds is peculiarly to be desired at the present time, in view of the repelling influence of such dependence upon men of high spirit. More important, however, than financial independence, is the development of loyalty to Christ, in the use of money, as in the use of all personal endowments. Recognition of this phase of Christian stewardship, essential for any normal Christian life, should not fail in the new life of the East. The loss resulting to Christian interests in our own land through inadequate recognition of this duty is great indeed. It is deeply to be desired that the churches now springing up in mission lands shall not be satisfied with reaching such standards of giving as are reached in

the West, but shall aspire to realization of a true ideal. It was recognized in the conferences that the missionary cannot accomplish a larger service than may be realized by the fixed resolve that this foundation shall be laid for Christian life in the East.

The aims to which I have referred are not new in the work of the Union. In some fields the happy results attending their recognition have had a shining demonstration. Yet there is danger that development at these points may not keep pace with external growth and advance in material equipment. I would recommend effort, both on the field and at home, to secure fitting attention for these interests. Definite plans should be formulated for securing the constituting of churches, and definite rules should be adopted as to the amount of aid to be given to churches and the ratio of reduction to be observed from year to year. The fact that a rigid uniformity is impracticable should not defeat this end.

A Development in Southern China

A very interesting development in adjustment of mission work to changing conditions is seen in the Southern China mission. Prominent native leaders who had visited Shanghai at a time of political excitement returned home affected by the sentiment, "China for the Chinese." At first signs of dissension appeared; not only independence of the missionaries but antagonism toward them was developed. But the missionaries met the situation wisely. They said to the churches in which dissatisfaction had appeared, "Your attainment of complete independence will represent the culmination of our hopes." A unique plan has since been developed for formal public recognition of the "independence" of churches fulfilling certain conditions. The points involved apparently are, "the ordaining of a pastor, acceptance of all responsibilities of church life, and definite understanding that there will be no appeal to missionaries for protection under any circumstances, but that the people will meet whatever may come with dependence upon God alone." Friendly relations between missionaries and people have been strengthened by this wise handling of a difficulty which for a time threatened to result in serious alienation.

An Advance Step

An important gain was reached in some of the conferences in the adoption of a plan for discontinuance of the relation of the missionary to native workers in financial transactions. The preamble embodied in the resolution of the Japan Con-

ference, (p 64, III: 1.) states forcibly an important principle,—“It is repugnant to the manly instincts of the evangelist and prejudicial to maintenance of the fraternal relations which should subsist between evangelist and missionary for an evangelistic worker to negotiate with an individual missionary regarding salary and special personal expenses.” This provision for conduct of all financial transactions with evangelistic workers by a committee rather than by the individual missionary marks a genuine advance. Equally important is the principle affirmed in the action of the East China Conference. (p 74, III: 1.) “That native pastors shall receive aid only through the churches served by them, such aid being supplementary to sums raised by the churches for support of worship.” The individual relation in financial transactions between the missionary and members of the native body should be reduced to the lowest limit possible.

Importance of Enlistment of the People in General Work

II. A second principle which, I think, should not fail to command earnest attention is that of enlistment of the people in maintenance of Christian enterprises outside the local church interests. It is plain that much attention has been given to this development. The native Conventions are becoming an increasingly important factor in Christian work. A development in Southern China under the Southern Baptist board of missions is of interest because it has plainly proved promotive of very pleasant relations between the people and the mission body. It is that of transfer by the mission body to the native Convention of certain forms or sections of work, as the churches are able to maintain them. A flourishing school for boys, which bears favorable comparison with the schools maintained by missionary societies, is administered exclusively by Chinese, under the Chinese Convention. A handsome building was recently provided by contributions of the Chinese. Sections of the evangelistic work also are transferred from time to time to the native body as it is able to care for them. A recent transfer of the Weichow section of our own Kityang field to the native missionary association exemplifies the same principle. The plan merits consideration by all mission bodies.

Native Representation in Direction of Mission Work

III. It is increasingly evident that a further development must be realized if harmonious relations are to be maintained with the native body. It is that of native representation in the direction of work conducted by the mission body. It is well

known that an acute sensitiveness to the control of work by the foreign mission body has developed in Japan. In some sections demand has been made for permanent withdrawal of missionaries from the country. Others would subordinate the missionaries to control of Japanese leaders. The situation has become not a little embarrassing to some mission bodies. It creates a twofold danger,—on the one hand, that the missionary will be led to withdraw from the country because of the impression that opportunity for further work is denied him, and on the other, that the missionary's work will be so far embarrassed as to lose much of its power. It is plain that withdrawal of missionaries from Japan would be a calamity. With 45,000 Buddhist temples and shrines, as against 1600 Christian churches,—with 52,000 Buddhist priests, as against 2,100 Japanese Christian workers, it is evident that this country, whose future must be of so great influence upon all world interests, still has room for missionary activities. It is plain that the difficulties of the situation are to be faced and conquered, in loyalty to the commission of Christ for evangelization of all the nations. Not retreat but the overcoming of difficulties through establishment of relations of full Christian brotherhood, should be the outcome in Japan of the present sensitive conditions.

It is certain, I think, that the native Christian body in Japan will not be satisfied, except as participation is accorded to it in the shaping of plans by mission bodies. I confess that this demand seems to me just. The position has been taken by some mission bodies, in a prolonged discussion with the Japanese, that the principle to be observed shall be that of division between the work of the native body and that of the mission body, the former caring for its own work, and conferring with the missionary only when it chooses to do so, and the mission body, on the other hand, being left to an independent direction of its work. But this proposition, whatever its appearance of fairness, has seemed to me to fail of doing full justice to the issue, since all work of mission bodies, as well as that of native bodies, is among the Japanese people and affects their interests. I cannot escape the conviction that denial to the Japanese or the Chinese, of participation in the planning and direction of mission work involves an imputation of racial inferiority certain to be increasingly offensive to a self-respecting people. On the other hand, it must be owned, there is force in the suggestion that financial control of mission funds must remain with mission bodies and the societies which mission bodies represent, since they are responsible to donors for the use of gifts. It has, however, seemed to me that a distinction may properly be made between direction of

work and final control in appropriation of funds. The constituting of a joint body of missionaries and natives for discussion and determination of plans of work, employment of evangelists, decision as to the grade of payment to be made to workers and the degree of aid to be afforded to churches, all this may be secured while a right of final decision in appropriation of funds remains with the missionary organization. I think the problem of perpetuating relations of Christian fraternity would be simplified by adoption of such a plan. While dissatisfaction might at times arise it would no longer have the just basis which apparently it now has. Mission bodies would have an important advantage if this safeguard only were continued, in place of denial to the native bodies of representation in the determination of plans of work.

An Exigent Issue

It is certain that larger recognition for the native body in counsel concerning mission interests is an exigent issue that should be settled on the basis of a large-minded Christian fraternity. Determination of the form and extent of this recognition is a problem affected by the degree of development reached in each local field. But my conviction is strong that there is no field in which the principle should not have a clear recognition. The policy favored should be plain to all, and its development should be rapid as candid and fair judgment of local conditions will permit. Missionary societies are afforded in Japan a providential forewarning of developments certain to appear in China and in other lands of the East. The lessons learned from Japan should influence missionary practise in all lands. Action should anticipate demands of the native body rather than yield to them tardily and grudgingly. The lesson so conspicuous in Japan is the writing of divine providence, and its demands, whatever their accidental expression, spring from consciousness of the rights of manhood. They are an expression of the purpose of One who, through the movement of history and the development of the work of the church, is leading on the world to revelation of the inherent equality of all peoples and their call to a common inheritance in the kingdom of God.

Certain resolutions testify to the conviction prevailing in the conferences of the importance of this issue. The interest manifested was far broader than the expression in formal resolutions. I would recommend that, in all constituting of boards of oversight of institutions connected with our missions or committees related to general interests, the issue of representation of the native body shall have the most serious consideration.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL RELATIONS

IDEALS EMPHASIZED BY THE UNION.

(Extracts from "A Review of Conditions and Policies," pp. 14-17.)

The Missionary Union is committed to the cultivation in all ways of fellowship, affection and Christian cooperation among all disciples of Christ.

Systematic provision for conference between representatives of missionary bodies is increasingly desirable. On the field, as in administrative work at home, such conference should yield results of great value.

Joint conduct of educational, medical, philanthropic and literary work, wherever practicable, should not fail to be promoted in the interest of economy and fraternity.

Recognition of individual responsibility should control the missionary from the outset of his work. He should seek to lead all disciples to sit as learners at the feet of Christ rather than to impose upon them his own convictions.

Freedom in personal inquiry, conviction and action must be maintained as the right of all men. A direct personal relation between the individual soul and God is the central reality of a genuine Christianity—the very essence of religion, without which all fancied good is unreal or insecure.

The Scriptures as the authoritative revelation of the teaching and will of Christ should be given to all peoples, and personal study of the Scriptures with a view to personal ascertainment of truth and duty should be emphasized as a primary Christian obligation.

References to Resolutions

Japan—p. 65—IV; East China—pp. 75-77,—IV; South China—p. 85—IV; Philippine Islands—p. 91—IV.

THE issue of interdenominational relations enlisted very earnest attention in the conferences. The action taken recently by an intersociety conference in West China, in which a plan for free transfer of membership between all Christian churches, was favored with practical unanimity emphasized the timeliness of this discussion. The importance of the general issue as related to future Christian interests in mission lands and to denominational sentiment at home was keenly realized by members of the mission bodies. I add to the expression made in the resolutions a statement of certain general facts and principles recognized in the conferences.

General Principles

Christian fraternity and fellowship have as a rule no finer exemplification than is afforded in mission lands. This should be promoted, by all legitimate influences. The followers of Christ are one; their aim is one. Their essential unity should be unmistakable.

Systematic provision for conference between mission bodies, and between representatives of the native bodies, is desirable in the interest of expression of fellowship, avoidance of misunder-

standing and conflict or duplication of work, and increase in the effectiveness of Christian forces. (cf p 75; IV: 1.)

Cooperation in educational, medical and other general enterprises is to be sought unless adverse considerations are conclusive. In every new form of work considered in the conferences inquiry was made at the outset as to the practicability of cooperation. As a result of this, consultation is now progressing between missions of the Union and the mission of the Disciples at Tokyo (academic and collegiate school work), the London Society Mission at Hankow (academic school work), the English Presbyterian Mission at Chaochowfu (medical work), the Southern Baptist Mission in the Hakka field (theological training); and union has been effected with the London Society and Wesleyan missions, at Hankow (medical training).

The issue as to a future organic inter-relation between churches of China should be determined by the people in accordance with their conviction of Christ's teaching and will. The missionary should be solicitous that he shall not forestall their free action under divine leading.

Whatever ecclesiastical system is constituted, local and individual freedom must be respected; otherwise there would be violation of soul liberty, a boon of priceless value to the East as to the West. To be untrue to individual freedom and responsibility, moreover, would be peculiarly unfitting as this would be in violation of the principle from which the new life of the world is developing—the sacredness of the rights of man as man. It is in the relation of man to God that this principle has its highest exemplification.

It is plain that organic church union is not a serious issue at the present time. I think that no one can read current publications of ecclesiastical bodies and believe otherwise. Honest differences of view continue. The requisite degree of harmony is not reached. Moreover, it is questionable if a desirable end would be served by such union. Current views and organizations include the most highly ritualistic and the most extremely rationalistic elements. Quiet fidelity of each body, according to the light given it, would seem to promise more of ultimate good than a formal merging of views so diverse.

Transfer of Church Membership

The outstanding interdenominational issue in the East, and particularly in parts of China, is that of free transfer of members between the several church organizations. What attitude shall our missionaries take in relation to this issue? No

one could have listened to the prolonged and intensely earnest discussion at Shanghai without realizing that the issue has in China elements of perplexity not attaching to it in this country. The statements made in the joint conference in East China by the representative committee appointed to formulate the views to which expression had been given in the discussion, should be carefully read. (pp 75-77; I: 2; 3.) In this country decision as to membership involves a choice between many possible relations. In China change of residence may remove one far from any church of the denomination with which he has been connected. The importance of maintaining a united front against the appalling forces of heathenism appeals strongly to Christian workers. Our missionaries should have our profound sympathy and our prayers that wisdom may not fail to be given them from above.

It was recognized in all the conferences that the issue must be determined in the light of the answer given to two questions:

(1) What does loyalty to Christ, as lawgiver, require?

(2) What is required by service for the world through the principles which Baptist churches characteristically have represented?

Action of the Conferences

In the conferences in Japan and Central China no formal expression was made in respect to inter-church relations. Adoption of the resolutions reported from South China and the Philippine Islands was unanimous. (pp 85; IV: 91, IV: 1.) In the joint conference at Shanghai the action was unanimous in opposition to any form of endorsement of infant baptism. It was believed that well-known lessons of history indicate that the tendency of the practise, whatever safeguards are sought, must be toward extension of church relationship to communities as a whole, irrespective of spiritual experience, and thus to the merging of the state and the church and the imperilling of both spiritual and civil interests.

Regarding requirement of immersion as essential in reception of members from other churches, sentiment in this conference was divided. The action taken evidently was a frank expression of men and women who sincerely desire both to be true to the deeper principles represented by Baptist churches and to promote a true Christian unity. It is believed by some that the teachings of Christ do not expressly indicate baptism as necessarily precedent to church membership, and they are persuaded that greater influence would be secured for the fundamental

principles of Baptist churches if Christian fellowship were more strongly recognized. Others are as firmly persuaded that the proposed interchange would be in violation of Christ's teaching and that it would involve the silencing of testimony to great truths of Christianity and gradual loss of any distinctive practise or teaching. Still others would favor the creation of a "second kind of church membership"—a form of associate membership—to which those not fulfilling the full conditions of membership may be received. (pp 76, 77, IV: 3.)

A Request for Advice

A very important feature of the action taken in East China is the request for advice from home as to this important issue. In view of the possibility of misunderstanding and misrepresentation as well as of mistake injurious to Christian interests, it is felt by missionaries of the Union that the responsibility is too serious for them to bear alone and that advice should be given them by those whom they are representing in their work in China. They realize that the Executive Committee may desire to seek light from a larger body as to the course which their constituency in the home land would have them follow in the responsible position in which they are placed. In the assurance that you will recognize the spirit in which they turn to you and their just claim for sympathy and counsel, I bring to you their request. (pp 75, 76, IV: 2.)

FORMS OF WORK

IDEALS EMPHASIZED BY THE UNION

The Union, originally and throughout its history, has been characteristically an evangelizing agency. Rightly or wrongly, direct efforts for evangelization have been regarded as constituting the primary and supremely important work of Christian missions.

Personally and through development of native workers, our missionaries have been conspicuous in use of this agency. — *Review of Conditions and Policies*, p. 27.

Publication work includes translation of the Bible into many languages and dialects, preparation of grammars, dictionaries and educational and religious literature. — *Review of Conditions and Policies*, p. 34.

The Philippine press at Iloilo is promising wide-reaching service for the Philippine Islands. Through Mr. Lund's exceptional power as a translator and writer, the New Testament Scriptures and large parts of the Old will soon be available for the Visayan people of all dialects — numbering about one-third the population of the entire group of islands. A large store of literature, the fruit of many years of labor by Mr. Lund, will at once be available in the Spanish and the native languages.

Maintenance of medical work may be advocated on three grounds: care for health of missionaries, humane ministrations to the people, and promotion of evangelization by securing favor with the people, and bringing them under direct personal Christian influence.

China is a limitless field for medical missions. No other allied force for Christianity is more powerful in winning popular favor and in extending direct Christian influence. — *Review of Conditions and Policies*, pp. 32, 33.

EVANGELIZATION

References to Resolutions

East China — p. 77: 5; South China — p. 85: 5.

THERE is no difference of view in our mission fields as to the primacy of direct preaching of the gospel as a missionary method. The attractive opportunities in educational and medical work make large drafts upon missionary resources, but the conviction is strong that there must be no relaxing of emphasis upon direct evangelistic effort. It is realized that there can be no substitute for the renewing work of the divine spirit as experienced through personal acceptance of Christ. Promotion of this is the great need of all lands, transcending every other interest. For this work a triple force is recognized as essential, — the foreign missionary as leader in evangelistic effort, trained evangelistic workers and the body of Christian believers.

Resolutions of the Shanghai conference, held in April, 1907, present principles emphasized in the recent conferences:

That every effort be made to persuade believers of all classes actively to propagate the gospel in the pursuit of their daily callings, with the conviction that upon the degree of success attained in this depends the success of all other evangelistic methods. We urge all Christians to contribute of their time as well as their means a certain definite portion to the work of evangelization in places beyond their own home.

That, in view of the great need of men for purely evangelistic work, the conference would strongly urge the establishment in every mission in China of schools in which men may obtain such knowledge of the Scriptures and such training in preaching and practical work as shall equip them for labor as evangelists as distinct from pastors and teachers.

Personal Activity Indispensable

It is recognized that the great commission of our Lord will never be fittingly discharged until the entire company of Christian disciples is an evangelistic force. "The quiet daily work of a company of believers, so full of grace that they live and talk it out over the counter, in the market, by the wayside, this is the norm of the evangelistic enterprise." The extraordinary results reached in the work in Korea are traceable directly to fulfilment of this individual obligation; it is the custom, at annual meetings, to set forth this responsibility of Christian discipleship and to receive pledges from members of a certain number of days to be set apart for preaching the gospel outside their villages, without expectation of financial payment. This ideal cannot be held in view too steadily and earnestly in our mission fields.

The end sought in the second of the two resolutions quoted is in a good measure realized in several of our theological schools. At Shanghai the preparatory course is adapted to this and in South China and the Philippine Islands this aim is quite certain to be prominent. So far as the object is not reached in the regular schools a definite provision should be sought for it.

A New Evangelizing Agency

In this connection I would call attention to an agency especially adapted to direct evangelistic ends, which is now gaining remarkable prominence in some parts of the East,—that of the Sunday school. This work is of comparatively recent development. Formerly the schools were small and composed mainly of members of the churches. The use of Sunday school work as an agency for evangelism was impracticable in view of the popular attitude toward Christian churches. The splendid progress in this form of Christian activity in Japan and Korea is a fine testimony to the change wrought in public sentiment. Children may be reached in indefinitely large numbers. The opportunity afforded for extending Christian influence through this agency is increasingly great, and should be improved in all mission fields.

MEDICAL WORK

References to Resolutions

Central China—p. 71—IV; East China—pp. 79, 80—VII: 1-6; South China—pp. 86, 87: VII 1-7; Philippine Islands—p. 93—VI.

Medical missions, particularly in China, perform a service second only to that of the Christian school in promotion of the ends of mission work. China is practically a land without physi-

cians. Unscrupulous charlatans, pretending to knowledge of Western medicine, are the cause of untold suffering. The appeal to Christian compassion is powerful. The work of a thoroughly trained Christian practitioner is a blessed ministration. Appreciation of the mission hospital is shown in South China, at Hopo, where the people of their own accord have raised the sum of \$4,000, Mexican, with which they desire to build a hospital, if the Missionary Union will send them a physician. Yet it is plain that at best the work of the mission hospital is unavoidably limited. To supply foreign physicians in sufficient numbers even to touch the borders of the vast need of the empire is hopeless. Plainly, the supreme service of medical missions must be realized through a work of education. The hospital is to serve as a model of the spirit and methods of Christian medical work. A great army of Chinese medical practitioners must be raised up. To train this army and impart to the medical work of the future the influence of Christian ideals is an opportunity that may well stir a profound enthusiasm.

Union Medical Schools

It is apparent that work so broad in scope can best be maintained by united effort. Plans are widely discussed for the opening of union schools in five or six leading centers of China. The Laymen's Missionary Movement in Great Britain proposes the raising of a fund of \$500,000, one third of which shall be devoted to this interest. A school of this character was established some two years since in Peking; its work is thoroughly successful. A similar movement has developed at Hankow, in which our Central China Mission is participating. The school is an outgrowth of a local work of the London Mission. It has seventeen students, representing six missions; a class of four graduated last year. The school now to be supported by the Missionary Union in conjunction with the London Society and the Methodist Mission begins its united work under the most favorable conditions. In East China establishment of a union school at Shanghai or Nanking is under consideration. (p 71; IV: 1; p 80, VII: 6.)

Support of Hospital Work to be Sought from the People

The discussions in the conferences resulted in significant action relating to the maintenance of general medical work. The importance of providing for support of the work by the people was realized. While this end must be reached in part by collection of fees, plans are now made for securing another form of support quite as important and promising still larger result. It is proposed to secure in the community served by each of the

hospitals stated contributions for its support. It is believed that the people will respond to such appeal and that thus mission funds may be released and medical work more rapidly extended. The proposition would seem to be only fair that as the hospital plant and salaries of foreign workers are provided from abroad the people should accept maintenance of the work as their just share in the enterprise. A new interest in the work of the hospital would be a valuable result of this plan. Confidence is general that the result of the effort will be favorable. I would recommend that, in all cases where hospitals are maintained by the Union, stated contributions be sought from the people, and that in establishing additional hospitals favor be shown to centers in which such support is promised. (p 80, VII: 3; p 87, VII: 5.)

Other Recommendations

Certain other vital interests are emphasized in the resolutions of the conferences in China and the Philippine Islands. Attention is called to the importance of plans providing definitely for such cooperation between medical and evangelistic workers as shall conserve the results realized from the Christian influence of the hospital. Patients should not fail to be sought out in their homes after return from the hospital. This end is furthered, and other valuable results are secured, by provision for appointment of a hospital committee composed in part of non-medical members of the mission. This obviously is desirable as a correlating of the medical work with other departments of the mission.

Appointment of a board of native visitors for each hospital is a valuable provision for linking the work of the institution with the life of the people. The recommendation that each hospital be provided with a staff of two resident physicians commends itself strongly. It is undoubtedly a true ideal. Difficulties are encountered, however, in the painfully inadequate number of medical workers and in the very urgent desire that a hospital shall be maintained in connection with each of our main stations in China and the Philippine Islands. As a temporary substitute for the plan proposed, I would recommend that it shall be understood that the medical worker last appointed to any mission field be regarded as a substitute physician, who shall fill vacancies, arising through furlough or through need of temporary assistance, until such time as he is relieved in these duties by the coming of a new medical appointee. The appointment of trained nurses for hospital service is greatly to be desired. Opportunities afforded to such workers are second only to those of the physician.

Needs in Medical Work

Outstanding needs in medical work in China are an associate for Dr. Huntley at Hanyang, Central China, who now adds a professorship at the medical school to the over-taxing demands of the finely developed hospital; erection of a hospital at Huchow, where the work established under Dr. Eubank has long since merited this recognition; the earliest possible opening of medical work in Chaoyang and Hopo in Southern China, together with the building of a hospital at Chaochowfu. It is hoped that at Chaochowfu the plan for affiliation with the English Presbyterian Mission may be consummated; funds are in hand for erection of the building to be used in the Union's section of the work as a memorial to Mrs. Adkins. It is hoped that Dr. Adkins may be relieved ere long at Kityang, where the fine hospital erected under support of the Woman's Society of the West by Dr. Bixby, whose death followed so closely upon this achievement, is to be permanently under the care of a woman physician. The appointment of a woman physician is urged also at Kaying, where a successor for Dr. Grant has not yet been secured and a successor to Dr. Worley should relieve Dr. Scott of a part of her double burden at Swatow. In Western China, a physician should be secured at once for Suifu, in view of the approaching furlough of Dr. Tompkins, and medical work should be established also at Ningyuenfu.

New hospital buildings at Shaohsing and Kinhwa reinforce the work in Eastern China. At Iloilo, in the Philippine mission, an admirable type of medical work is conducted in the hospital under the joint direction of the American Presbyterian Board and the Missionary Union. While the need is less vital than in China, the work of the hospital is most beneficent and thoroughly helpful to other mission interests. The new hospital building at Capiz is a great benefaction to the people. At Bacolod the limited work contemplated in the resolution of the conference will prove very serviceable.

PUBLICATION WORK

References to Resolutions

East China — p. 80 — VIII; South China — p. 87 — VIII; Philippine Islands — pp. 93, 94 — VII; 1-3.

This represents one of the broad avenues open to Christian influence in China. The Missionary Union is recognized in the remarkable work of the Christian Literature Society by the appointment of Dr. Dearing as one of the vice-presidents of the organization. The influence of this work has been incalculable in promoting the movement of China toward the light.

The Canton Press

The work of the Publication Society at Canton under the superintendency of Rev. R. E. Chambers of the Southern Baptist Mission is realizing an ideal success. Members of the deputation of the Missionary Union who visited China in 1907 were strongly impressed with this enterprise as a sound business investment. The Press has wide patronage and is doing a pure and strong service. It is confidently believed that its permanent maintenance would be without cost to the societies. The terms offered to the Union for full participation in the work are generous. I would strongly recommend that this enterprise be made in reality, what for some time it has been in name, a joint work of American Baptists.

Our Philippine Press

Our publication work in the Philippine Islands has a twofold advantage, a thoroughly well constructed press building and a missionary leader endowed as few men are for work in translation and preparation of religious literature. The Press building is a noble structure. Its cost exceeded the original appropriation but represents genuine value. The resolution adopted by the conference indicates the important additional uses to which the building will for a time be devoted. A fine list of works is ready for publication. It will not be possible to issue all immediately. An understanding must be gained as to the demands to be met and the returns to be anticipated, before plans are definitely determined. Yet entire self-support should not be sought in such a work. Mr. Lund's facility in reproducing his work in the several dialects of the Central Islands is a trust given to the Union that should be utilized for a far-reaching service to the Visayan people.

FORMS OF WORK—EDUCATIONAL

IDEALS EMPHASIZED BY THE UNION.

Educational work is recognized by the Missionary Union as an indispensable adjunct of missionary work.

Ends to be sought in this work include the following:

The training of Christian converts for intelligent recognition and discharge of their Christian obligation as members of the church of Christ.

Extension of Christian influence through the presence in the schools of non-Christian pupils.

Preparation of evangelists, Bible women, and other lay workers for effective service.

Training of a native Ministry.

Preparation of teachers for Christian schools.—*Manual of the Missionary Union*, p. 51.

Present conditions in China are recognized by the Union as creating a peculiar demand for strong maintenance of Christian schools as a contribution to the solution of the great educational problem which that empire is facing.

In view of religious conditions in China a fully coordinated system of Christian schools is vitally essential.

Equally important is the establishment widely in China of strong Christian institutions for higher education that Christian ideals may be diffused in the new education. Christian civilization owes this debt to the new life of this great empire. The immensity of this task suggests the importance of realizing if possible a plan of union between Western universities and missionary bodies in wider establishment of educational work in China. This would both enlarge the constituency committed to support of this work and enhance the influence of Christian schools in this fateful era. It is believed that a plan conserving all true aims, educational and missionary, would not be found impracticable.—*A Review of Conditions and Policies*, p. 32.

The plan for opening hostels, or dormitories, that pupils attending the public schools may be brought under direct Christian influence, has been adopted with admirable results in the Philippine Islands. Its further extension is believed most desirable.—*A Review of Conditions and Policies*, p. 31.

The Union characteristically has emphasized the distinctively Christian aim of educational work, holding that such work should not merely be subordinate and subservient to a religious end, but should be saturated with the Christian purpose.—*A Review of Conditions and Policies*, p. 30.

In general, a plan for maintenance and strong support of one higher educational institution in each mission field is believed to be ideal, that the model of a truly Christian institution may be presented, and that opportunity may be afforded for a full course of study under Christian influences.—*A Review of Conditions and Policies*, p. 31.

In the Philippine Islands an exceedingly successful industrial school is maintained, which has grown to large proportions and is winning unstinted commendation from people and officials.—*A Review of Conditions and Policies*, p. 34.

References to Resolutions

Japan—p. 65, 67—V: 1-10; Central China—p. 71—III; East China—p. 77-79—VI: 1-11; South China—p. 86—VI: 1-4; Philippine Islands—p. 91, 93,—V: 1-13.

Nothing is more conspicuous in the life of the East than the high regard in which educational work is held. It cannot be doubted that in this there is indicated a divine leading in the work of Christian missions. An enlightened mission policy must give prominence to educational plans. Failing in this it would neglect a great opportunity providentially opened and would decline a most important and far-reaching service for the lands in which its work is carried on.

The resolutions reported indicate the attention given to this great interest. Prolonged consideration was given to educational interests, to review or readjustment of plans, discussion of wise methods and consideration of proposed new forms of work.

Indispensableness of Christian Schools

It was recognized by all that the Christian school fills a place for which there can be no substitute. The dependence of education upon morality and of morality upon religion has recently been strongly emphasized in public utterances by men high in official position in Japan. There is evidence in Japan of a groping for a stable foundation for its educational system. What President Washington wrote long ago holds true in all lands. "Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle." Christian schools are indispensable in the training of Christian young people and in preparation of Christian workers. Their work is equally indispensable as a contribution of Christian educational ideals to the new civilization of these lands. (p 78, VI: 8; p 86, VI: 1.)

As the resolutions indicate, conviction is pronounced that the work of mission schools should be definitely and positively Christian. It would be difficult to emphasize this principle too strongly. Schools that are merely competitors of government schools have no place in mission policy. The fundamental purpose of the mission school should be undisguised. We should not be dissuaded from this course by the fear that we may be thought to be making use of education as a bait for securing converts. It should be known that it is our conviction that development of Christian character is essential to a true education. We may be confident that fidelity to this principle will not constitute an embarrassment in school work. The superior result realized will win increasing favor. We should hold our work to high intellectual standards. The schools should demonstrate that Christianity is the one basis upon which intellectual and moral life can be developed in greatest strength and purity.

The Element of Personal Influence

Emphasis is laid, in the resolutions, upon extension of Christian influence in the schools, not merely by Christian teaching, but by the personal influence of teachers and pupils. The spiritual aim should never be forgotten. The opportunity afforded by the relation sustained to youth in educational work is very

sacred. Rightly used, educational work in its personal relations and in its broad influence will be, not a rival to the work of evangelism, but the inflow of evangelistic forces into a noble channel.

Two Convictions

I desire to record two convictions regarding higher educational work which have remained with me very strongly since my visit to China. First: That higher educational work should be linked very closely with the life of the churches. This, I think, is highly desirable both in the interest of promotion of a healthful intellectual life within the churches and with a view to the healthful influence of the churches upon educational development. Second: That every Christian community should be afforded relation to a Christian institution of higher education. The policy of the Union I think should include maintenance or joint support of one higher educational institution in each mission field. In each field this development should be aided as the flowering of its work.

Emphasis was fittingly given in the conferences to the fact that, while the higher schools of our mission should serve our own Christian youth, the work should not fail also to extend to the non-Christian community. The influence of Christian youth should count for the extension of Christianity. Yet it was recognized also as vitally important that preservation of the Christian atmosphere in the schools should be safeguarded. This compels close attention to the character of pupils received as well as to that of teachers, since the former are quite as influential as the latter in determining the tone of school life. It is important that the student body shall have a predominantly Christian character and that the ratio of non-Christian pupils shall be limited. Fees to be paid by pupils should be determined with a view to making possible the attendance of Christian youth. Provision of scholarships is desirable. In Eastern China it is wisely planned, that these shall be competitive, that the assistance given may be an incentive to good work.

The Educational Opportunity in China

Educational conditions in China as related to missionary opportunity are of simply thrilling interest. The passion for learning developed under the old system persists in the new life. The situation is pathetic because of the impossibility of providing competent teachers for the schools so widely established. The experiment first made in the education of Chinese youth in Japan proved very unsatisfactory both to school authorities

in China and to the educational institutions to which resort was made in Japan. Short courses of three months or six months had been provided, but this policy is now radically changed. Waseda University, for example, insists now, as Count Okuma has stated, that Chinese pupils shall take a course extending through several years. As a result of this the number of these students in Tokyo has greatly decreased, although some seven thousand remain. The result promises ultimately far greater satisfaction to all concerned. But the Christian schools established in China by mission bodies are exerting an unrivaled influence. Through them the opportunity is offered to teach the teachers of the new China, to shape the educational life of the future of this great awakened people. It is no wonder that thoughtful minds the world over are aroused by the opportunity unparalleled in the world's history. The visit made by Dr. E. D. Burton and Prof. C. J. Chamberlain, under commission of the University of Chicago, is but one sign of the interest awakened in this problem. In England representatives of Oxford and Cambridge are making similar investigations with a view to establishment of a great Christian university. It is a satisfaction to note that an American committee comprising leading educators of the day has been created by American mission boards in New York for study of this urgent problem.

A New Standard and Base of Support Essential

It is obvious that so great a need as this which now confronts mission bodies in the educational situation in China creates a necessity for new standards of support of mission work. It is certain that this work to which the Missionary Union is providentially constrained cannot be maintained out of the ordinary income of a missionary organization. In some way resources must be greatly enlarged. The situation should not fail to be brought home to the constituency of American colleges. A source of supply should be found here both for teachers and for financial support. The appeal is powerful indeed to all who are concerned for the well-being of China, and for the future of the race to which for good or evil this great empire must make so influential a contribution.

Our Work in China

Fortunately our workers are in a position to share genuinely in this educational service. The outlook is bright for a work of large influence through the college and seminary at Shanghai. Fifty students were enrolled by the college at its opening. This

institution, representing the combined efforts of American Baptists of the North and South, should be strongly supported in fulfilling the great service it is offered. Development of professional schools is ultimately in view. Increase in the teaching force, equipment in apparatus, filling in of the low ground of the unrivalled site of the school and erection of additional buildings are important needs. The academy at Hangchow, with ninety-five students and a growing plant, and lower schools at other stations constitute important elements of a carefully planned educational system in this mission. The school building at Huchow was purchased and its work is to be sustained by funds contributed by a generous donor. A new building for the boys' school at Kinhwa is greatly needed.

In Southern China, a less developed superstructure appears, but peculiarly broad and safe foundations have been laid in the fine evangelistic work of this mission, which give assurance of the preservation of a thoroughly Christian character in the educational development. The work of the Boys' Academy at Swatow, which is about to enter a new home, provided by an individual gift, is supplemented by that of three station schools and by an extending development of village schools. Provision for station schools is urgently desired at Chaoyang and Ung-kung. A building should be supplied for the flourishing school for boys at Kityang.

A fine basis for work is laid also in Central China, where development of a strong body of Christian people has given the mission a just claim to support in development of higher educational work. A plan is under discussion for union with the London Missionary Society in educational work of academic grade, with the possibility of advance to collegiate and technical departments. The school work of the London Society is already established. In both missions, the proposal for union has enlisted warm interest.

The outlook for successful realization of plans for a union university at Chentu in West China is encouraging. An institution established in this city will have as its constituency China's largest province, with a population of marked enterprise and fine manliness of character. Four mission bodies co-operate in this work for which sixty-four acres of land have been secured close by the city. Munroe Academy at Suifu is gaining in influence. In this field also systematic development of local schools is in progress.

The problem of the outstation day school is enlisting attention in all our fields in China. In view of the fundamental character of this work it should have a first place in mission plans. While restriction of development of boarding schools of lower than academy grade would be very regrettable, the policy may

well have serious consideration, pending increase in resources, in the interest of a wide extension and adequate supervision for the local day schools.

Education in Japan

In Japan appeal for Christian service in educational lines was never stronger than now. The cordial attitude of the country toward Christianity is strikingly shown in the favorable attitude toward Christian schools. While the rules of the Educational Department prohibit religious exercises or studies in schools granted government recognition, these are not now so enforced or interpreted as to constitute embarrassment to Christian work. Outside of school hours Bible classes meet freely, and there is no restraint upon full exercise of personal Christian influence.

The proposal of conference with the Disciples mission with a view to possible union in academic and collegiate work awakened much interest in the Conference. In case the plan should be found impracticable I would recommend that sanction be given at once for the proposed enlargement of the work of the Academy. (p 66, V: 7, b-e.)

The friendly attitude sustained in Japan to Christian teaching is pleasantly illustrated by the appointment of Mr. Benninghoff as lecturer upon the psychology of religion in Waseda University. While conducting his work from a scientific point of view, Mr. Benninghoff deals with the most Christian material and is allowed the utmost freedom in the work of his department. The announcement is deeply interesting that this university, at which 9000 pupils are in attendance, is contemplating the establishment of a department of religion, under direction of Christian teachers, which shall receive equal recognition with other departments in bestowal of degrees.

The Christian Dormitory

The value of the hostel or dormitory under Christian management as an adjunct to educational work is increasingly attested, both in Japan and the Philippine Islands. It is significant that in Japan, dormitories are almost entirely wanting in government institutions and in other Japanese schools under private control. The scores of thousands of students in Tokyo are left to seek such homes as they can find in the city. The Christian dormitory offers exceptional opportunity for influencing student life in lands where public education is extensively developed. The student's home opened by Mr. Benninghoff last fall is exerting a strong, healthful influence upon a fine company of young

men, and a similar work for young women is conducted by Miss Wilcox, under auspices of the Woman's Board of the East. This type of work should not fail of hearty support. A new building favorably situated should be provided for the work of Mr. Benninghoff.

At Bacolod, in the Philippine Islands, a dormitory has accommodation for about forty boys in attendance upon the government school. It is evident that this work, under the care of Dr. and Mrs. Steinmetz, is exerting a fine and far-reaching influence. I was told that "the life reconstructs the boys," and certainly appearances confirmed the testimony. The work secures entrance into homes in outlying towns, and, through the influence of the dormitory boys, their companions are brought into relation with the missionary. The system is largely self-supporting, aside from supply of the building and support for one missionary family. Erection of a building to take the place of rented quarters is very desirable. Miss Kuhlen's dormitory for girls, also at Bacolod, is doing an admirable work. The building is overcrowded and should be enlarged at once. A less developed dormitory work has been conducted at Jaro. A new building should be provided here in a favorable locality. The request for opening this form of work at Capiz is a gratifying indication of a marked change in the public attitude toward the work of the mission. Two or three years ago no one of the boys would have ventured to seek a home in such an institution. The influence of the dormitory is affected greatly by the character of the teachers in the public schools. This influence happily is particularly favorable at Bacolod. (pp 92; 93, V: 9, 10, 11, 13.)

The Normal School

The need of normal schools is emphasized in both Japan and China. Our plans for school work should give prominent attention to this interest. (p 78; VI: 5.)

Education of Girls

The multiplying of schools for girls is one of the finest and most hopeful marks of the new movement in the East. Both the Minister of Education in Japan and the Prince Regent in China have recently indicated their purpose to extend this work more widely. As yet it has reached scarcely more than a beginning in China, but the outlook is encouraging. Schools under the Woman's Societies at Ningpo and Swatow show fine development, while less advanced schools are maintained at other stations. At Hanyang a fine new building is occupied. Development of institutions of high grade is hoped for at Hangchow

or Ningpo, and at Swatow. A new residence for the principal is to strengthen the work at Swatow. At Suifu a new building will be ready in September. In Japan four prosperous schools are sustained. A plan for seeking government recognition for two of the schools is sanctioned by the Woman's Boards, and advance to higher grade and removal to a new locality offering room for extension are contemplated by the Mary L. Colby Home. The opening of a school for girls at Iloilo, long urged by the Philippine Mission, it is hoped will soon be effected. (p 67, V: 9; p 78, VI: 4; p 86, VI: 1; p 92, V: 8.)

The "Home School" at Capiz was originally opened for homeless girls. Fifty children, girls and boys, are now quartered in the attractive new building.

Theological Training

Provision for theological training is now happily realized in all fields. Marked advance has been made recently in this work. At Shanghai seven students graduated at the Chinese New Year. The death of Mr. Millard involves a painful loss. He was greatly beloved and esteemed by the pupils, as by his associates. The seminary has a preparatory course for pupils below the academy grade. A third teacher should be secured and a building specifically for the seminary should be provided. Provision is made for the work in Central China by cooperation with the college and seminary at Shanghai. In West China theological work enters upon a new development. The school has been removed to Yachow, where under Mr. Salquist, a prosperous work is confidently anticipated. In South China the new building is spacious and imposing. Nomination of Dr. Ashmore as president was made with enthusiasm by the conference. A union work in conjunction with the southern Baptists is proposed for the Hakka field in South China. The Bible school at Jaro will soon be opened under Mr. Lund's presidency. The school at Yokohama continues strongly with Mr. Parshley as president. It should have the buildings and equipment recommended. Union in this work with the southern Baptists is still very strongly desired. (p 66, V: 2-4; p 86, VI: 3, 4; p 92, V: 4-7.)

Biblical training schools for women have been opened at Osaka in Japan and Jaro in the Philippine Islands.

Native Educational Societies

A gratifying outcome of the conferences is seen in the constituting in several fields of educational societies for support of pupils by the churches. Aid given by the Union will be supple-

mentary to amounts raised by the churches. Enlistment of the people in hearty interest in this form of work, and recognition of its vital relation to the life of the churches, are very valuable results promised in this movement. (p 65, V: 1; p 79, VI: 10, 11; p 91, V: 3.)

The Industrial School at Jaro

An institution of unique interest and promise is the Industrial school for boys at Jaro. This school affords opportunity for education to boys who otherwise would not advance beyond the low grades of the barrio schools. Schools of the higher grade in the larger centers, as a rule, are within reach only of those able to pay for board in the locality. In the Industrial School board is furnished in exchange for work. The type of work was chosen with peculiar wisdom. The instructor of the government trade school at Jaro said to me, "Your school does a work for boys which we cannot do—an all round work." The institution is rather a school of industry than of technical training; it develops habits of work, thus ministering to a fundamental need in the Islands. Yet it is more than a place of work. It provides for intellectual discipline, for moral development and for religious training. Mr. Valentine, in visiting this country, found that he had unwittingly planned a type of work allied to that of the George Junior Republic, though adding to this type the element of religious aim and influence. The school is largely self-governed. High ideals of character and fraternity are inculcated. The direct religious results are remarkable. "Practically all become Christians," and personal choice of Christ, in many cases, is followed by an unusual development in personal character and in efficiency as Christian workers. Certain changes should be under consideration with a view to strengthening the work of the school. It is important to find a profitable type of industry, thus placing the work more nearly upon a paying basis. The curriculum of studies should be more fully systematized. The number of pupils may well be limited for a time. Mr. Valentine should have an associate and two young women teachers should be secured. Erection of a new main building is very important.

A favorable arrangement has been made with the government trade school by which graduates from the Industrial School may be admitted to an advanced grade. The work of the school will thus count toward technical training, where this is desired. The possibilities of the work seems to me singularly great. I would earnestly recommend that it shall have the fullest possible support.

MISCELLANEOUS INTERESTS

Central Tabernacle in Tokyo

THE new Tabernacle at Tokyo has a well chosen site in the heart of the city. It has a commanding appearance, is commodious and well suited to the work in view in its construction. Two churches have united in constituting the Japanese Central Baptist Church. As indicated in the resolution, the work at the Tabernacle will represent the joint activities of the church and the mission body. Mr. Yoshikawa, the pastor of the church, and Mr. Axling, who represents the mission body in relation to this interest, are in profound sympathy in aims and plans. Many forms of activity are planned. The church should have a continually expanding influence among the student body and other classes. The completion of this enterprise strengthens greatly Baptist interests in Tokyo. It is highly desirable that both the mission body and the Japanese in other Baptist churches shall lend themselves strongly to promoting the interests of this central work. Its growth is certain to stimulate and strengthen all other interests. (p 68, VI.)

Church Buildings in Japan

Erection of attractive houses of worship in the larger cities, particularly in Osaka, Kyoto, Hiogo and Otaru, is very important. A building has now been provided for the West Osaka church on a main highway of the city. The East church has strong pastoral leadership and with a proper house would have commanding influence. It is earnestly to be hoped that the funds of the Union will be adequate for meeting these needs of Japan at an early time. (p 69, VII: 1.)

The Inland Sea Work

The work of Captain Bickel is not referred to in the series of resolutions, but it is upon the heart of all members of the mission. Its promise is unbounded. Of the 400 settlements of the islands about 350 are now reached by definite, continuous influences of the most personal and potent character.

Persons specially interested are listed and have suitable literature and individual letters sent them by mail. Of such persons there are 500 on the ship's list. For certain classes additional efforts are made. Thus at one time twenty or thirty school teachers gather on deck for a special service—again a like number of students, women or children. Seven Sunday Schools, many children's meetings, a kindergarten with fifty pupils, a night school and a little vessel for colportage work manned by the former boatswain of the mission ship, who "is known in the villages as a man whose life and disposition have been changed by some power as yet little understood," are elements in this work. The crew, originally unbelievers, are now Christians and active workers. I asked Captain Bickel what special marks of encouragement he had observed in his work. He answered, "The change from abuse to friendliness, the growing trustfulness of the people who consult me as to their family affairs, the habit of the people of lingering far into night for religious conversation after services have closed, the interest of several hundred inquirers, officials, schoolmasters, farmers, laborers, fishermen, the genuine character of converts, and the remarkable sympathy now shown by officials who give extraordinary privileges to the vessel." It would be deplorable if such a work were to suffer from want of adequate financial provision. Captain Bickel with an increased company of evangelists is strongly desirous of reaching to the Goto Islands, a group to the West of Nagasaki, with a population of 40,000 people. From this work, adequately supported, we may confidently anticipate an ingathering for which the history of missions offers few parallels.

Designation of a missionary family to Onomichi, a seaport closely related to the work of Captain Bickel, the filling of vacancies at Kyoto and Sendai, and provision of additional workers in Shinshu and in the Hokkaido are urgent needs.

Eastern China

In Eastern China an important need is that of provision of a building in Shanghai which, in addition to furnishing a residence for the business agent and treasurer of the mission and providing needed facilities for receipt and shipment of goods, shall serve also as a place of conference for the mission. A chapel building is sought for Hangchow in connection with the important work of the academy. The new chapel at Huchow was supplied by an individual gift. Additional workers are needed for Huchow, Hangchow and Ningpo, while occupation of new centers is strongly urged by the conference. Additional residences should be provided at Kinhwa and Shaohsing.

Southern China

Of special interest in connection with the Southern China mission is the report now received from Dr. Foster and Dr. Ferguson regarding the situation in the work at Bangkok. These brethren united in earnestly recommending that work be continued at Bangkok either through appointment of a missionary for permanent residence or by connecting the interest in Siam with the churches of the Southern China mission and providing for occasional visits by Dr. Foster. It is deemed advisable that some portion of the three valuable properties owned by the Union in Bangkok be sold when this can be done to advantage; meanwhile rentals accruing from the property will more than sustain the work. I think that for the present the relating of this work to the Southern China mission offers a happy solution of a perplexing problem. (p 87, IX: 2.)

General needs in South China as emphasized by the conference are missionary reinforcement for Ungkung and Chao-yang and provision of mission residences at Hopo and Ungkung. An admirable hall for street preaching, provided by an individual gift, and a commodious chapel at Chaoyang, are recent gains.

Central China

The conference in Central China makes earnest appeal for expansion of its work in the city of Hankow and also in the neighboring province of Hunan where a beginning has been made through the gift of special funds for new evangelistic work. The people of this province who a little time ago were bitter in opposition to all things foreign are now manifesting exceptional cordiality, and the opportunity for missionary work is most attractive.

Western China

Entrance into Chentu, the capital city of the largest province of China, has for some time been in view as an essential development in our West China mission. The removal of Mr. Taylor to Chentu, strongly favored by the conference, has now been effected. In view of Mr. Taylor's relation to the work of the university representing our own and other mission bodies in West China, appointment of an associate missionary for Chentu is very desirable. In Ningyuenfu also reinforcement is very greatly needed. A chapel should be erected at Suifu and a residence secured for Mr. Taylor at Chentu. Buildings for the educational work should follow promptly.

The West China missionaries who were present at Shanghai

pressed strongly for the opening of work for the Lolo people, a numerous aboriginal race occupying the territory between Suifu, Yachow and Ningyuenfu. They are believed to be kindred to the Karens of Burma, and would afford a fine field for foreign mission extension for the Karen churches.

The need for a mission builder is peculiarly felt in West China.

Philippine Islands

In the Philippine mission disappointment is keenly felt that plans for expansion must be deferred. Calivo at the western extremity of the Capiz field offers an inviting opportunity, while the great island of Mindanao, destined because of its richness and the virility of its population to a position of increasing importance in the archipelago, has long been coveted as a field of work. A legacy of two thousand dollars, conditioned upon adoption of this work, has been left to the Union by an American who for some years resided in the Islands. On the northern coast of the island the population is Visayan. The people use the Cebuyan dialect, and represent the increasing stream of immigration from the neighboring islands of Panay and Negros. I would recommend that these two needs be borne in mind for favorable consideration when resources will warrant expansion in our work.

A new church building should be provided in Jaro. The nipa structure within little more than a stone's throw of the great Cathedral should be replaced by a more commodious and attractive edifice.

The resolutions relating to need of reinforcement and advance in the mission fields present an appeal that can be met only by a great enlargement of the financial resources of the Union and a great advance in enlistment of men. It has been suggested that the supply of missionary recruits be increased by a supplementary use of a plan for engagement of young men and women for a limited term, particularly in the work of teaching. This I think will be wise. Yet the work as a whole, involving mastery of a strange tongue and acquiring of acquaintance, sympathy and influence with a strange people, obviously asks enlistment for life. The voice that is calling to this enlistment and to consecration of financial resources is a voice more authoritative than that of the missionary. The changes occurring in the interval of seven years between the two journeys I have made to the East

have deepened my profound conviction that Christian missions are a divine work disclosing divine activities and following out a divine plan. It cannot be that through such victories as have been given to his servants, God is leading to a final defeat. Opportunity now is unbounded. America itself is scarcely more open to a free prosecution of every form of Christian work than are Japan and Korea, China and the Philippine Islands. By every inducement that can influence noble minds God would persuade us to put fully to the proof the trustworthiness of his promises and the greatness of his power. (p 69, VII: 2, 3; p 81, IX: 1; p 87, IX: 1; p 94, VIII.)

RESOLUTIONS OF
MISSION CONFERENCES

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY CONFERENCE IN JAPAN

TOKYO, SEPTEMBER 21-29, 1908

I. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL

1. Joint Relation of Trustees and Committees

VOTED, That such committees as the Property Committee, the Committee on Language Study, the Publication Committee, and boards of trustees of educational institutions shall be considered as joint committees of the Executive Committee and of the mission conference, whose reports shall go to the conference and the Executive Committee. The conference shall not alter such reports but shall submit them to the Executive Committee intact with such remarks or suggestions as the conference shall deem necessary.

2. Enlargement of Powers of Conference

VOTED, That we suggest to the Executive Committee that they take into favorable consideration the enlargement of the powers of the conference on the field and that the reference committee be asked to formulate the request in detail.

3. Reference Committee: Action by Correspondence Disfavored

Inasmuch as it is a recognized principle that action by a committee or board is regular and legal only when such action is taken at sessions of the committee or board and after conference, we put ourselves on record as deprecating any other rule of procedure. In exceptional cases only, when in the judgment of chairman and secretary action cannot be deferred, should *ad interim* business be attempted by correspondence by the reference committee.

4. Business Agent

VOTED, In view of the limited nature of the operations of the mission in Japan and the necessarily limited knowledge of local conditions, customs, and needs, on the part of a newcomer, we do not feel that a business agent specially sent out by the board is needed at the present time.

5. Appropriations in Gross

After carefully considering the desirability of making appropriations in gross it is our strong conviction that, in view of the many difficulties attending the system, the best interests of the work can be secured, after the careful scrutiny of station, reference committee and conference, by leaving the final decision to the judgment of the Executive Committee, in whom we have the utmost confidence.

The recommendation was referred to a committee of three for consideration and report at the next regular conference.

6. Graded Estimates

We recommend that in asking for appropriations, the missionary shall indicate the relative importance of his several requests under A, B, C, A being those of major importance, this gradation being subject, along with the request itself, to revision by the station, reference committee and conference.

7. Emergency Fund

In view of the fact that emergencies arise that call for *immediate* action and expenditure of mission funds, we beg to recommend the Executive Committee to consider the advisability of making an appropriation to be placed in the hands of an emergency committee to whom all requests for such funds shall come from the individual through the station.

That this appropriation be kept at a minimum of 3,000 yen.

8. Loans to Churches

We recommend the favorable consideration by the Executive Committee of the creation of a loan fund to assist our Japanese churches to comfortable church homes, the details of the plan to be worked out later if deemed advisable.

That the request of the Yokohama church be granted and a loan of 6,000 yen be given to enable the church to buy land on which to build a church.

9. Auditing Accounts

We recommend the Executive Committee to appoint the reference committee as a committee to audit the accounts of the mission treasurer and of each individual missionary.

We recommend that in making requests for new appropriations each missionary present to the reference committee with his application a duplicate copy of his detailed account of the preceding year as submitted to the Treasurer of the Union.

10. Cooperation Between Woman's Boards

In answer to the question raised by the one of the Woman's Societies at home regarding cooperation on the field between workers, we would respectfully submit that in the past the times of embarrassment have been few, but occasional emergencies do arise when an exchange of workers temporarily, and also a possible continuous association of workers, as in training schools, would be most desirable, therefore we would ask some instruction from our Woman's Boards how far we may follow the advice of the conference or reference committee in calling for workers from either board when these cases arise.

II. THE GENERAL MISSIONARY

1. Acceptance of Plan

VOTED, That while we have believed, and record it as still our conviction, that more helpful and effective general care of the mission work could be done by a small committee of missionaries than by one man, still, inasmuch as the general missionary plan has seemed to the home board a wiser plan, we wish to assure them and the general missionary to Japan that we purpose not to allow such conviction in any way to thwart the two years' experiment, but will unite heartily with them in giving the plan a fair trial.

2. Suggestions as to Work

Having listened with deep interest to the remarks of the Foreign Secretary in regard to this newly created office of general missionary, we, the members of the American Baptist Missionary Union mission in Japan, desire to formulate for our own present use and for future reference a succinct statement of what we understand to be the scope of this work in its relation to conference, various committees, individual missionaries, native workers, etc.

(a) Duties of the General Missionary.

We understand that the general missionary is appointed by the American Baptist Missionary Union as a member of their administrative force; that it will be his office, over and above what it may or may not involve of responsibilities relative to the churches in America, to supply, on the one hand to the board and on the other to the missionaries on the fields to which he is related, all possible information that would be helpful to the work involved; to meet so far as may be wise and feasible with conferences, committees and individual missionaries, giving unbiased advice when asked by them or deemed wise by him. Such advice may also be sought and given by correspondence.

(b) Limitations of Office.

The relation of the general missionary to his fellow missionaries is purely fraternal. He has no authority over any of them or over any work assigned to them. His office shall not entitle him to disregard any of the rules or practises of the conference, its reference committee or any other committee on the field. He has no official relation whatever with native conferences of any kind, or with churches or individual workers.

It is the conviction of his fellow missionaries that, while he should be encouraged to utilize his vastly increased opportunities in enhancing missionary interest in the home land, yet, inasmuch as he will be regarded by many as the representative of the fields with which he is connected, he should not give publicity through the press or otherwise to views known to be different from those of the missionaries on these fields without some indication that such are personal or minority views.

If at any time anything in his course should be such as to seem to his brethren to handicap rather than to help their work, it shall be his duty to listen to and to weigh their suggestions in the same brotherly spirit and to the same generous extent to which it shall be their duty to listen to his suggestions, in each case alike for the welfare of our common work and the glory of our common Lord.

3. Welcome to the General Missionaries

VOTED, To extend to the general missionaries, Dr. Ferguson and Dr. Dearing, a cordial welcome, and to invite them to participate in the deliberations of the conference.

III. RELATION WITH NATIVE WORKERS

1. Direct Payment of Workers

We believe that it is repugnant to the manly instincts of the evangelist and prejudicial to the maintenance of the fraternal relations which should subsist between evangelist and missionary for an evangelistic worker to negotiate with an individual missionary regarding salary and special personal expenses.

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in Japan

We therefore recommend the following plan:

(1) The Evangelistic Committee shall act for the mission in all negotiations regarding the personal expenses of male evangelistic workers.

(2) The amounts to be paid from the mission treasury on the accounts of salaries of evangelists, moving expenses and emergency grants shall be determined by the Evangelistic Committee.

Negotiations shall be conducted by church or evangelist, as the case may be, directly with the Evangelistic Committee.

(3) The appropriation of each missionary shall be kept intact. In case the appropriation is insufficient to meet an approved need, the only recourse shall be as at present to request from the Executive Committee of the American Baptist Missionary Union an additional appropriation, through reference committee and conference.

(a) We suggest that: Mission funds employed for the maintenance of male evangelistic workers shall be paid directly to the church or evangelist by the treasurer of the mission, who shall have no discretionary powers.

(b) The Evangelistic Committee shall meet three times a year and *ad interim* action may be taken in urgent cases.

IV. INTER-SOCIETY RELATIONS

1. Mission Comity

With regard to the question of comity between the Churches of Christ Mission and our own, we favor the appointment of a committee consisting of Mr. Topping and Mr. Bullen to confer with a like committee from the Churches of Christ Mission on the matter, and also to consider any other questions of comity arising between the two missions on the field, this committee to report to Conference later.

2. Transfer of Yamaguchi Field

VOTED, That it is the desire of this conference that the action taken at the annual conference in June regarding the transfer of the Yamaguchi field to the Southern Baptist Convention stand as being confirmed, as a recommendation to the Executive Committee.

3. Agreement as to Evangelists

We recommend that the reference committee be requested to arrange if possible with the Southern Baptist Convention Mission in Japan a mutual plan for the exchange or transfer of evangelists; also a plan for a uniform schedule of salaries for evangelists in the two missions. In case of failure to arrange a plan for the two missions we recommend that the reference committee prepare a schedule for our own mission, the findings of the reference committee in regard to these matters to be reported to the next session of the Japan Conference.

V. EDUCATIONAL

1. Support of Ministerial Education

We recommend that effort be made to interest the Japanese churches in the work of ministerial education and it is suggested that an annual offering be made towards the support of students in the seminary.

VOTED, To refer this action to the board of trustees and the Japanese Consulting Committee of the Seminary.

2. Boards of Trustees

That we recommend to the Executive Committee that there should be two boards of trustees, one for the seminary and one for the academy.

3. Consulting Committee

We reaffirm the action of the conference in June, 1907, regarding the election of a Japanese Consulting Committee for the academy and the seminary.

4. Union in Theological Education Desired

We reaffirm our belief that one Baptist theological school of high grade is sufficient to meet the present need. We earnestly hope that union with the Southern Baptist Convention Mission may be speedily consummated.

5. Seminary Enlargement

We believe that pending such possible union it would be unwise for us to defer enlargements immediately demanded for the proper conduct of our seminary in Yokohama. We reaffirm the need of a fire-proof library and chapel building. We recommend that the faculty of the seminary be enlarged by the addition of one more foreign teacher and at least one more Japanese teacher as soon as possible.

6. Postgraduate Work

We believe in the general principle of educating Japanese Baptist preachers in Japan. At the same time no one can question the fact that the leaders in church work in all denominations, as a class, are men who have had opportunity of theological study abroad. It is also patent that our own work suffers for lack of such leaders. We recommend the establishment of postgraduate scholarships whereby occasionally picked men from among our graduates who have met certain educational standards here may be sent to America at mission expense. Advantages for further theological study and for observation of Baptist work in the churches of America, and the prestige such men hold among the Japanese people would amply justify such expenditure of mission money.

7. General Educational Interests

(a) Proposed Union of all Missions in University Work.

We express our hope that there will be one Christian university in Japan. We believe one well equipped union Christian university would better meet the need today than several small universities. If such a union university should be established we would strongly recommend our board to cooperate in its establishment and maintenance.

(b) Expansion of Academic Work.

We would emphasize the need of Baptist academic school work. We recommend that the Executive Committee favor such addition to the equipment of Duncan Academy as shall provide adequately for a minimum of 150 pupils, and that they be asked to authorize such purchase of land, rearrangement of the grounds and addition to the plant and teaching force as may be found necessary for this expansion.

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in Japan

(c) Union in Collegiate Work Desirable.

It is our opinion that for the present at least some degree of union in the work of the advanced course (*kotokwa*) is to be sought. *Koto* grade schools in various localities in Japan would seem to be desirable.

(d) Conference Proposed with Churches of Christ.

We recommend that without sacrifice of principle, we do everything in our power as opportunity affords, to unite with the Churches of Christ in the work of higher education.

VOTED, That in the judgment of this meeting a strong union *koto gakko* work would be highly serviceable to the interests of both missions and that we ask the two mission bodies and the home boards to give earnest consideration to the practicability of early entrance upon this form of united work.

(e) Union in Academic Work Possible.

We recommend that the conference advise the Executive Committee to adopt the same attitude on the question of union with the Churches of Christ Mission in academy work as we advised on the matter of union in higher educational work.

This conference recommends the reference committee to continue conference with the Churches of Christ Mission regarding the feasibility of uniting with that mission in academic work and to report to our regular conference.

VOTED, That this conference expresses itself as in favor of retaining the same religious liberty in academic education in the case of union with the Churches of Christ Mission as that now enjoyed by our academy.

8. Dormitory Work

That the request of Mr. Benninghoff that he be allowed to open dormitory work in Tokyo be granted and the necessary funds for security money and equipment be appropriated.

9. Schools for Girls

(a) Government Recognition Sought.

VOTED, That the conference advise the Executive Committee and the Woman's Board to grant the request of Miss Converse for permission to seek government recognition for the Yokohama Girls' School (Mary L. Colby Home).

That the request of Miss Buzzell be granted and she be allowed to seek government recognition for her school (Ella O. Patrick Home), with all its privileges, and that the financial questions involved of enlargement and new equipment be referred to a committee nominated by conference.

(b) Raising of Grade.

We advise the Executive Committee and the Woman's Board that the conference approves of the raising of the grade of the Yokohama Girls' School to that of a college. (Three years' higher course.)

(c) Proposal of Limited Term of Service for Teachers.

VOTED, In view of the lack of workers preventing us from properly equipping our girls' schools, and in view of the eminent success we have observed in other mission schools in Japan in securing help of specially

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in Japan

trained American teachers on a limited term of service who are not full members of the mission, we recommend to the favorable consideration of the home boards (especially the Woman's Boards) the feasibility of following such a course wherever it may be deemed wise.

10. Tokyo Kindergarten

That we approve the request of the Tokyo station that the sum of 4,000 yen be made available at once for the removal of the present kindergarten buildings at Yotsuya and their erection on the land recently purchased.

VI. THE TOKYO TABERNACLE

As it is of great importance to the work of Christ and to Baptist interests in Japan that a strong and effective work should be carried on at the Baptist Tabernacle, we desire to make the following recommendations:

(a) Believing that the principle of cooperation with the Japanese brethren should be a strongly emphasized feature of this work, we suggest that the oversight of the Tabernacle building be placed in the hands of a board to consist of three missionaries and three Japanese to be elected by the conference and *Nenkwaï* respectively.

(b) That in case it is desired by Baptist churches in the vicinity of the building to form a new church organization, such church be invited to make their home in the Tabernacle. For the sake of avoiding confusion certain times should be fixed during which the Tabernacle is at the full disposal of the church whose life is centered there. This should be done by fraternal consultation on the part of the members of the church with the board of control.

(c) It will be desirable that steps be taken to engage in some of the many phases of Christian effort which in these days are proving so effective in other places; such as evangelistic services, lectures, song services, evening classes, social efforts of a suitable nature, etc. Such work should be under the control of the missionary and Japanese in cooperation, who will consult the board of control as to hours during which the building will be at their disposal.

(d) The Tabernacle will be suitable for the general uses of the denomination such as the convening of conferences, mass meetings Japanese and foreign, at the discretion of the board of control, acting in the name of the conference and *Nenkwaï*.

(e) Mr. Axling should be designated to carry on the general work centering in the Tabernacle with one or more Japanese workers.

(f) We believe that it is desirable that Mr. Yoshikawa be at least temporarily released from the duties of general missionary to assist in the work of the Tabernacle.

(g) We recommend that Mr. Benninghoff shall be requested to correlate the work of the students' dormitory to that centering in the Tabernacle in the closest way possible.

(h) We further recommend that until Mr. Axling's return in November Mr. Fisher be requested to take charge of the general work in cooperation with Mr. Yoshikawa.

(i) We suggest that the present board of control be requested to act under the above plan until the next meetings of the conference and *Nenkwaï*.

Conscious of the great importance of cordial and full cooperation in opening and continuing the work in the Tabernacle, we would request

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in Japan

that all missionaries individually do all in their power by advise and example, setting aside immediate personal preferences, to bring about the desired end of having a strong church organization as a support and complement to the more general work carried on in the Tabernacle.

During the session a rising vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Fisher for his valuable services in the supervision of the erection of the Tabernacle building.

VII. MISSION NEEDS

1. Church Buildings

In these interests we stand far behind any of the other leading denominations working in Japan, and we know that the lack of buildings is one of the most serious hindrances to the growth of our churches in numbers and influence. We have, thanks to our well equipped seminary, evangelists second to none in their power to preach the word, but we have only small rented shops for them to work in. We reach many with the gospel of salvation, and are used to bring them into the fold of Christ, but we cannot keep them in the Baptist churches, for we have few places that can be called churches.

2. Need of Reenforcement:

Two new families are urgently requested for the immediate needs of the work, but this request should in no way be considered to conflict with the request relating to general needs.

We recommend that a new missionary family be located in Himeji at once. This request was made by the Himeji station with the thought in view that on the return of Mr. and Mrs. Briggs from furlough they will open work at Onomichi in connection with the work of Captain Bickel.

We desire to call the attention of the Executive Committee to the great need of filling up the gaps between some of our stations, especially the necessity of opening work at Onomichi, a town on the borders of the Inland Sea, where it is important to have a family stationed, not only for the purpose of evangelizing that needy district, but in order to conserve the work of Captain Bickel on the islands. In addition to this, the gaps between Sendai and the Hokkaido call for more men, the Hokkaido needs reenforcement, and Shinshiu has long waited for a family. So we feel that we require to be reenforced by at least seven families. We require also as many single ladies to reenforce our schools and carry on the work that has already been opened up.

3. Need of Advance in Evangelistic Work

We would emphasize the need of a strong development of evangelistic work in and about our present stations. For a time each step we take will involve an additional outlay of money. Still we believe that this work ought to be done. We are doing it up to the limit of our appropriations and over the limit, but still we do not reach to the outskirts of the darkness. The country districts have been neglected; they are neglected today; there is every probability that they will lie neglected for a long time unless some compassionate ones at home by their larger gifts give to the American Baptist Missionary Union the power to authorize us to go forward. We require money enough to enable each missionary to have a large number of evangelists associated with him so that the neglected country districts may be evangelized.

VIII. FURLOUGHS AND VACATIONS

The general thought of the mission with regard to time of furloughs was that the present plan of allowing missionaries to spend two summers away from their fields of labor was far more advantageous to all interests of the work than a furlough running from date to date irrespective of the seasons in which such furlough might fall. The following action was taken with regard to vacations on the field:

VOTED, That we advise the Executive Committee that the rule of five weeks' vacation during the heated term of each year be observed and that the reference committee be asked to consider and advise in the case of any exceptions that may be deemed necessary.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

VOTED, That we express our appreciation of the kind entertainment given to the conference by the Tokyo brethren and sisters.

VOTED, That we as a conference desire to express our appreciation of the visit of the Foreign Secretary of the Union to Japan and to place on record our conviction that he has handled the matters discussed by him in a broad-minded and statesmanlike way and with a thoroughly Christian spirit.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE CENTRAL CHINA CONFERENCE

HANYANG, OCTOBER 24-29, 1908

The body of resolutions adopted by the conference in Central China was in substantial agreement with the resolutions formulated in the joint conference at Shanghai, in which the Central China Mission was represented. The Secretary calls attention to this and emphasizes only the following votes.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Reference Committee

VOTED, That when Rev. J. S. Adams leaves the station, Mr. Sidney Adams becomes a member of the reference committee in his place.

2. Property Committee

VOTED, That we nominate Dr. G. A. Huntley and Mr. S. G. Adams as members of the property committee.

3. Auditing Committee

VOTED, That the conference nominate the reference committee as its auditing committee.

II. GENERAL MISSIONARY

RESOLVED, That we heartily approve of the policy of the Executive Committee in the appointment of general missionaries, and that we pledge our loyal and prayerful support to Dr. Dearing in the position to which he has been called.

III. EDUCATIONAL WORK

Conference as to Union

VOTED, That the matter of possible union with other missions in academy and normal school work in Hankow, and the preparation of a definite educational plan be referred to the educational committee, who shall report early to the conference, and through the conference to the Executive Committee.

IV. MEDICAL WORK

1. Cooperation in Union Medical School

The resolutions adopted by the committee of the union medical school were presented by Dr. Huntley.

VOTED, That these resolutions be submitted to the Executive Committee with the recommendation that we approve of this plan and unite with other missions in this project.

2. Appointment of General Committee for Work of Hospital

Dr. Huntley, Dr. Bretthauer, Miss A. L. Crowl and Rev. J. H. Deming were nominated as members of the hospital committee.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY CONFERENCE IN EAST CHINA

SHANGHAI, NOVEMBER 2-9, 1908

Delegates from the Mission bodies in South, West, and Central China participated in these meetings.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL

1. Recording of Votes

We recommend that in voting on all questions in which the action of the Executive Committee is required, negative votes in the conference and reference committee shall be recorded.

2. Joint Relation of Trustees and Committees

We recommend that committees and trustees whose appointment is wholly or partially made by the Executive Committee, be regarded as Joint Committees of the administration and the conference; that while committees in case of emergency may report during the year to the Executive Committee with the understanding that a copy of the communication be sent to the reference committee, their annual report should be submitted to the conference and by the conference transmitted to the Executive Committee in Boston unaltered, accompanied by the expressed judgment of the conference.

3. Property Committee

We recommend that the property committee be regarded as a joint committee of the home administration and of the conference; that its annual report be submitted to the conference and by the conference transmitted to the Executive Committee in Boston, unaltered, but accompanied by such remarks as the conference may desire to make.

4. Powers of Property Committee

We recommend that in cases where a difference of judgment arises between any missionary and the property committee of sufficient importance to occasion departure from plans approved by the committee, it shall be the duty of the committee to order the cessation of work on construction, and to notify the mission treasurer that no further advances of money for work or materials should be made until advised that the matters at issue have been adjusted.

5. Appropriations in Gross

VOTED, That this conference express itself as disapproving the plan of appropriations in gross.

6. Union Treasurer

VOTED, That we recommend to the Executive Committee that where desirable a union treasurer be appointed.

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in East China

7. Duties of Mission Treasurer

VOTED, That it is the sense of this conference that a set of instructions governing the duties of the mission treasurers on the field be drawn up and furnished to all missionaries of the Union.

8. Business Agent

RESOLVED, That we hereby approve of a Baptist headquarters in Shanghai, which shall provide accommodations for a business agent or treasurer and a good sized room for mission conferences.

9. Mission Builder

VOTED, That it is the sense of this conference that the appointment of a mission builder is highly desirable.

10. Emergency Fund

We recommend that mission treasurers be authorized on demand of the reference committee to pay out money in addition to appropriations in cases of special emergency, when in the judgment of the reference committee it seems probable that the Executive Committee will approve the expenditure in question. The total amount of money thus used must not exceed \$500 Mexican in any one year.

11. Auditing Accounts

VOTED, That we recommend to each of the conferences here represented that each conference shall make provision for the auditing of all accounts.

12. Cooperation Between Woman's Boards

VOTED, To concur with the resolution of the East China Conference, at its last meeting, regarding the possible union of Woman's Boards.

Whereas, The organization of the Northern Baptist Convention makes for the closer coordination of all the societies, both general and woman's, hitherto represented at the Anniversaries; and

Whereas, The two Woman's Societies for home mission work have already united; and

Whereas, The merging into one of the two Woman's Societies for foreign missions, or some practical arrangement whereby the two might work together as one society within the limits of a given mission conference, would greatly facilitate the task of administration of woman's work by making possible and practicable the transfer of workers on the field, and also by rendering more simple the task of building up a complete system of girls' schools leading up to one or more academies, a college and a normal school for the whole mission and thus tending to unify woman's work among us; therefore it is

RESOLVED, That we instruct the corresponding secretary to make representations to the two Woman's Boards for foreign missions indicating the advantages which we believe would accrue to their work and to ours by such a course of action, and asking them to give full and early consideration to this question.

II. GENERAL MISSIONARY

1 Approval of Policy

That we heartily approve of the policy of the Executive Committee in appointment of general missionaries, and that we pledge our loyal and prayerful support to, and cordial cooperation with Dr. Dearing in the position to which he has been called.

2. Suggestions as to Work

That we would recommend:

(a) That all missionaries or committees writing to the Executive Committee on important mission matters should send a copy of their correspondence to the general missionary, who would in due course receive from the Executive Committee a copy of their reply.

(b) That missionaries should be urged to keep the general missionary in touch with the work by frequent correspondence.

(c) That the general missionary shall have access to all conferences, reference committees and other business meetings connected with the mission, without the power to vote.

(d) That in the event of the general missionary and the conference being in disagreement in the presentation of mission matters to the Executive Committee, the conference shall be entitled to a copy of the correspondence between the general missionary and the Executive Committee relating to the question under consideration.

(e) That the representatives of the Woman's Societies shall have the same relation to the general missionary as the other missionaries of the Union.

(f) That no important action should be taken by the Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the general missionary until such recommendation has been considered by the reference committee or conference.

(g) That there be no official relation between the general missionary and the native Christian body.

III. RELATIONS WITH NATIVE BODIES

1. Native Pastors to be aided only through Churches

That in the judgment of this conference contributions made by the Missionary Union for the support of any native pastor should be supplementary to a sum raised by the church served by him, and that it should be so given that it will be regarded as assistance given to the church rather than payment by the Union to the pastor.

2. Recognition of Chinese on Committees

That we emphasize the advisability of recognizing Christian Chinese in the formation of committees for consideration of plans of work relating to the interests of their people, with a view to definite fraternal recognition of their equality with us and the registering of a position which will later be an occasion of satisfaction in view of swiftly changing conditions accentuating national independence.

3. The Lord's Day

RESOLVED, That in the several stations of the China missions here represented we will enjoin, by precept and example, upon the members of our Baptist churches a stricter observance of the Lord's Day, laying special emphasis upon the closing of workshops and other places of

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in East China

secular business by church members who have these places under their control, and that we further urge upon our members that it is their duty as Christians to refrain from indulgence in any recreation and personal pleasures on the Lord's Day which may bring criticism or reproach upon the cause of Christ.

IV. INTERDENOMINATIONAL RELATIONS

1. Federation of Churches

We rejoice in the manifest desire of all Protestant missionaries expressed at the Shanghai Conference and in the meetings of different bodies since the Centenary Conference for a closer relation of the different sections of the church of Christ in China. We further record our conviction that the movement looking to the federation of churches in China is in accord with the spirit of our Lord expressed in his intercessory prayer, and that it is our privilege and duty to do all in our power to further it. The avenues of service open to a federated church are many. We cordially welcome all effort to unite the churches of Christ in educational and literary work, and in the printing and publishing of the Scriptures, and we pledge our hearty cooperation with those who have the direction of these enterprises.

2. Appeal of Conference for Advice of Executive Committee—Report of Committee on Inter-relations of churches

Among the various problems pressing upon the missionary for solution that of interdenominational relations is of great importance. The whole question gains emphasis in the present development of the thought of all peoples, but more especially because of the new movements in various phases of life in China. The new awakening to a national self-consciousness, although at present in a crude and uncorrelated form, lends its influence to a closer relation of the different sections of the church of Christ in the empire. The extension of railroads within the bounds of China proper cannot but reveal to these myriads of human beings their common oneness in many and varied aspects. For weal or woe China is becoming acquainted with herself.

The church of Christ must face this question honestly, and endeavor to solve it in such a way that the best interests of the Kingdom of God shall be conserved. The most intense form of this problem is presented in the question as to the free exchange of church members by bodies of Christians differing in their beliefs and practises. The following are some of the reasons why this problem is difficult to solve:

(1) The increasing migration of the Chinese people within the bounds of the empire. While this migration has been going on for years, it is being increased by the better facilities of travel, the new articles of commerce and the enterprises of the government. The new educational movement calls the graduate of one college to teach in another. The post office and customs authorities send young men to all parts of the empire. In not a few cases these teachers and clerks are church members and need to be cared for in the cities to which they are sent.

(2) But this cannot be done in the best way and to the fullest extent because of the scarcity of churches in the prefectural and district cities. The question then arises, if the migrating Christian is not of the same denomination as that of the church to which he goes, what shall be his status in that body? Is there a place for him inside of

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in East China

it, or must he remain outside? On the answer given to this question depends the development of spiritual life in the soul of the newcomer. It may be said that he can attend services for prayer and worship and thus receive help, but too often the case is reversed, not being taken into the fold of Christ he wanders back into heathenism.

(3) The problem is increased because of the inability of numbers of the Chinese to understand the points of difference between the various denominations.

The sharp distinctions and subtle reasons so familiar to the European Christian are bewildering to the believer in China. His gospel is simple, his faith is direct, his theology is unformed and because of this it is exceedingly difficult to make him understand just why he, a follower of Christ, is refused admission into the fellowship of a body of Christian people. Here is his great danger, and unless some plan can be thought out whereby he can be taken into close relations to the church he will be lost as an active Christian.

(4) There is still one more reason why this problem is difficult of solution; it is the inability of the missionaries of the various societies at work in China to devise a plan whereby the migrating church member can be received into fellowship. While a number of them are prepared to agree on certain points, it yet remains true that their loyalty to denominational views and practises prevents them from formulating a plan whereby these Christians in a heathen land may be cared for. In view of this fact, we turn to our Executive Committee and ask them to express their opinion and state their attitude on this question, and also to suggest plans whereby we, in the face of this situation and in view of the fact that the native church must in the near future have the decision of such questions in their own hands, may faithfully discharge the trust committed to our care.

3. Alternative Statements Submitted by Committee on Inter-Church Relations for Expression of Judgment by Members of the Conference

A. That we agree to accept the transfer of members from other churches who were "baptized" after profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Transfer of all members indiscriminately cannot be entertained until infant baptism is relinquished.

B. We believe that at the present time the situations can be best met by the creation of a second kind of church membership, to be known (until some better name can be found) as associate membership.

C. The movement for cooperation among the various bodies of Christians, cooperation that involves no surrender of what is believed to be scriptural teaching, deserves and should have the most hearty sympathy of every follower of Christ. We believe in it with all our hearts. Many forms of Christian endeavor which need not be specified come under this head.

The free interchange of church members is in a different category. We cannot subscribe to it. The conditions of church membership seem to us to be clearly laid down in the New Testament. They are belief and baptism, baptism being immersion upon confession of faith in Christ. These are the Master's own terms. He has nowhere given his servants authority to modify them. We dare not be a party to any proposition that says, whether directly or by implication, that these terms may be modified by any other than the Lord who made them. We stand, then, for baptism (i. e., immersion)

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in East China

on personal profession of faith as the indispensable condition of church membership.

What now can we do for the members of other Christian bodies coming to places where we have churches and they none? We could receive them into the church upon confession of Christ in baptism. But this, in all probability, would not be acceptable to them, and possibly would be even less so to the church from which they come. In such case, the alternative, as it seems to us, is to welcome them in the most cordial possible way to the services and activities of the church, and to make them feel our fellowship with them as Christian brethren in all ways consistent with fidelity to New Testament teaching.

In the vote upon the foregoing statements ten favored statement A, seven statement B and five statement C.

It was voted that the three statements with a report of the divided vote be forwarded to the Executive Committee.

V. EVANGELISTIC WORK

RESOLVED, That we record our profound conviction that the evangelistic feature of our mission work must ever hold the first and foremost place. The new emphasis laid at the present time on our educational work, must not be allowed in any degree to diminish our direct effort in the preaching of the gospel for the conversion of men. We urge the Executive Committee to make generous provision to keep the evangelistic force at its full strength.

VI. EDUCATIONAL WORK

1. Shanghai College and Seminary

Believing that an educated church and ministry is indispensable in the present and coming day in China, Be it

RESOLVED, That we express our high appreciation of the Shanghai College and Seminary in its present work and in its claims for advancement, and recommend the strong support of this institution, with similar or related movement contemplated by the Missionary Union in other mission centers.

2. Cooperation with Western Universities

RESOLVED, To recommend that steps be taken by the administration at home to devise, if possible, a plan of cooperation between Western universities and missionary bodies in extension of educational work in China.

3. Relation of Educational Work to Public School System

This conference recognizes the marked advance in the educational aims and methods of the Chinese Government, and recommends such conformity of Christian missionary education to the Chinese official scheme, in grades of schools, course of study and methods, as is compatible with our Christian ideals.

In places where there are government schools we should seek to cultivate the most friendly possible relations, first with the teachers and then with the pupils of such schools, always with the aim of bringing them into such a contact with Christianity as shall prepare the way for their personal acceptance of Christ as Saviour and Lord.

4. Girls' Schools

RESOLVED, That as many day schools as shall be found necessary shall be opened in each of the stations; that there shall be a boarding school in each main station and academies where necessary in each of the larger missions, and that one of these academies shall offer a normal course.

That in all these schools the aims shall be evangelization, development of Christian character and fitting for practical service.

That we shall seek to educate primarily the girls from Christian homes, and as many others as possible, laying special emphasis on reaching girls of the middle class.

That the course of study shall be of the same grade as in boys' schools, but shall include training for domestic duties.

That in educational work for girls cooperation with other societies is not advisable below the middle school.

That we approve of union in middle schools and schools of higher grade wherever possible.

5. Normal Schools

This conference recommends that in the formulating of plans for the establishment of normal schools, union with other Christian bodies working in the same provinces as the missionaries of the American Baptist Missionary Union be sought, and that negotiations looking toward such union be begun at the earliest possible time.

6. Uniformity in Curriculum

VOTED, That this conference recommend that uniformity in curriculum, examination and grading should be sought by all schools of primary and secondary grade in China.

7. Teaching in English

VOTED, That it is the sense of this conference that English should not be used as a medium of instruction in schools of academy grade or lower.

8. Religious Instruction and Influence

Inasmuch as our aim as Christian missionaries is first to bring men to a personal acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Saviour, and then to build them up in whatever pertains to Christian character and effectiveness of Christian service; therefore,

RESOLVED, That in all our educational work of whatever grade we emphasize the supreme importance of keeping this aim constantly before us;

That in seeking to realize this aim, we recognize and emphasize the unspeakable value of the personal influence of teachers, whether missionary or native, both in the classroom and in the other relations of the school life.

It follows, therefore, that teachers, whether missionary or native, should be selected not solely or mainly for their scholastic attainments, but even more for their zeal and ability in reaching and influencing the hearts of the pupils who are to come under their charge. Provision should be made in the curricula of mission schools for a regular course of Biblical instruction other than that given in the ordinary religious exercises of the schools. The aim of this course should be, not primarily

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in East China

to afford occasion for personal appeal to the students in the classroom, but rather to give to them the main facts of the Christian revelation. By the time a boy has finished his high school course he should know the main truths of Christianity and the essential difference between Christianity and other religions, should and understand Christianity as a historical religion, in respect both to its antecedents, and to its relation to Western civilization. Such knowledge of Christianity in its essential nature and historical setting is indispensable to any Christian or non-Christian. The instruction would not ordinarily be accompanied by exhortations to the students to become Christians, but it would give some knowledge of the nature and power of Christianity which would prepare the way for personal appeal in its proper time and place.

All pupils should be expected to conform to the rules and usages of the school in the matter of Christian studies and religious exercises, it being understood of course, that attendance at prayer meetings is optional. We compel none to avail themselves of the advantages of our schools, but it should be distinctly understood that our schools are first and always Christian. Any who may choose to avail themselves of their advantages are reasonably expected to conform to their rules.

9. Physical Examination of Pupils

RESOLVED, That all students about to be trained at mission expense should first be physically examined and certified as to freedom from serious physical disability.

10. Support of Ministerial Education

It is the sense of this body that it is desirable that in all fields of the Union in China, financial contributions should be sought from the churches for the work of educating the ministry, with a view to development in the churches of interest in this work and recognition of responsibility for it.

11. Chinese Education Society

On the question of support of theological students, it was stated that the formation of a Chinese education society was to be recommended by the faculty of the Shanghai Seminary, to encourage the participation of the Chinese churches in the support of students and to superintend the disbursement of all funds for this purpose from whatever source.

VII. MEDICAL WORK

1. Committee of Oversight

RESOLVED, That for each station where there is a medical plant, we recommend the appointment of a hospital committee, on which there shall be ample non-medical representation.

2. Medical Staff

RESOLVED, That true economy as well as efficiency demands that each of our hospitals should have on its staff two foreign physicians, either two men, or one man and one woman. We therefore respectfully request our home boards to adopt this principle as their policy, securing the required staffs as rapidly as may be convenient, either by appointments entirely within our own denomination, or preferably where possible by cooperation with other societies working in the same fields.

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in East China

It is further our conviction that every hospital would find a foreign trained nurse of inestimable value, and while this need is second to that of women physicians, we hope that the time is not far distant when both needs will be supplied.

3. Support of Work

RESOLVED, That in the judgment of the conference it is very desirable that in the conduct of hospital work provision for the current expenses shall be sought by regular subscriptions from native sources.

4. Chinese Board of Visitors

RESOLVED, To recommend the establishment of a Chinese board of visitors for each mission hospital with a view to promoting fraternal relations as well as to securing native interest in, and support for, our medical institutions.

5. Individual Communion Cups

RESOLVED, That the members of this conference deem it their duty strongly to urge upon the Christian Chinese the importance of using individual communion cups.

6. Union Medical Schools

RESOLVED, That we heartily approve of the establishment of union medical schools at strategic centers in West, Central, East, and Southern China which shall be distinctively Christian in character and missionary in spirit;

That we respectfully and earnestly urge the Executive Committee to avail themselves of the opportunity offered at the present for cooperation with other missions in this important department of Christian missions and to request that they seek as early as practicable to send out consecrated medical men who shall be preeminently fitted to engage in the work of teaching in a medical school.

VIII. PUBLICATION WORK AND LANGUAGE EXAMINATIONS

1. Publication House in Canton

RESOLVED, That the Baptist publication work at Canton deserves the hearty support of the missionaries on the field and of the board of the Missionary Union at home; and we would urge the Missionary Union through its home constituency to invest something like our fair proportion as Northern Baptists in this joint enterprise, and that at an early day, in order that the society may speedily be put in a position to render the widest and most effective possible service to our missions and to the work of the Kingdom of God.

2. "The New East"

RESOLVED, That we express to the Board of Managers of *The New East* and to the Missionaries of the Union in Japan and in the Philippine Islands our sense of desirability of union in the publication of *The New East*, that it may become representative of the missionary interests in three countries, as well as of all mission interests in China.

3. Language Study

RESOLVED, (1), To recommend that no responsibility of mission work be laid upon the new missionary during his first two years of service on the field.

(2) To recommend that in cooperation with other missions, a uniform course of study be provided for missionaries where this be at all possible.

(3) To recommend that in cooperation with other missions, summer schools for language study be established for missionaries using the same or kindred dialects.

IX. NEEDS

1. Appeal to Executive Committee and Northern Baptist Convention

RESOLVED, That this conference views with great concern the possibility of retrenchment on account of lack of funds and would call renewed attention to the unparalleled opportunity now presented to the church of Christ in China. The closed door of the last century stands wide open, every form of Christian service could be entered upon, and the reawakened nation be influenced by the spirit of Christian civilization, were the forces in any way adequate to the undertaking.

We therefore urge our Executive Committee, together with the Northern Baptist Convention, to give this matter their earnest attention, and, keeping in mind the dire significance of any retrenchment, make renewed effort to secure men and means for the work at hand.

2. Need of Recruits

VOTED, That it is the sense of this conference that greater publicity and definiteness be given through the Secretaries of the Union, the denominational press, and the Student Volunteer Movement, to the need of the Missionary Union for candidates.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Postgraduate Studies for Teachers and Physicians

RESOLVED, To recommend to the Missionary Union the desirability of providing funds for securing postgraduate studies for missionary teachers and physicians while at home on furlough.

2. Thanks to the Executive Committee

That we express our sincere and hearty thanks to the Executive Committee for arranging the visit of the Foreign Secretary and our general missionaries to China, and we record our conviction that this conference will result in a clearer understanding and heartier cooperation between the Executive Committee and the missionaries on the field.

3. Thanks to Mission Host

RESOLVED, That our Secretary be instructed to convey to Mr. and Mrs. Evans, Miss Buck and Miss Spurling, the very hearty thanks of this conference for their care and courtesy in providing for the comfort and convenience of all who have been in attendance upon these meetings.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY CONFERENCE IN SOUTH CHINA

KITYANG, NOVEMBER 18-24, 1908

I. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL

1. Recording Votes

VOTED, That the vote of the Shanghai joint conference of American Baptist Missionary Union missionaries, viz., that in voting on all questions in which action of the Executive Committee is required negative votes in the conference and reference committee be recorded, is the sentiment of this conference; and that it is desirable also that names of those not voting be recorded.

2. Joint Relation of Trustees and Committees

VOTED, That we adopt the resolution of the Shanghai joint conference as follows:—

See Resolutions of the Conference in East China, I, 2.

3. Reference Committee—Action by Correspondence Disfavored

Whether the business of the reference committee should be disposed of by conference or by correspondence was discussed. The sentiment of the discussion was that cases decided by correspondence should be as few as possible; also that definite dates be appointed for reference committee meetings, and that notice of these dates be sent to each member of the mission. Voted that in the light of this discussion the matter be left to the reference committee.

4. Powers of Property Committee

That inasmuch as the building and property committee is held responsible by the Executive Committee, therefore we recommend that in cases where a difference of judgment arises between any missionary engaged in building and the property committee, of sufficient importance to occasion departure from plans approved by the committee, it shall be the duty of the committee to order the cessation of construction, and to notify the mission treasurer that no further advance of money for work or materials should be made until advised that the matters at issue have been adjusted.

5. Consultation with Property Committee

That all repairs or changes in mission buildings, if involving an expenditure of above \$100 Mex., or if involving such alteration in the construction of building or use to which it is put as would require the consent of the owner if the property were rented from an individual, shall be submitted for approval to the property committee. In case of doubt upon this point the matter should of course be submitted to the property committee.

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in South China

6. Duties of Mission Treasurer

VOTED, That we adopt the resolution of the Shanghai joint conference in regard to instructions for the mission treasurer as follows:

See Resolutions of Conference in East China I., 7.

7. Business Agent

RESOLVED, That we hear with great satisfaction of the proposed appointment of a business agent at Shanghai, and would bespeak for our South China Mission a share and interest in his services.

8. Appropriations in Gross

VOTED, That we express our hearty sympathy and approval of the present method of assigning appropriations, and our hearty disapproval of appropriations in gross.

9. Emergency Fund

With reference to the provision of an emergency fund,

VOTED, That we adopt the resolution of the Shanghai joint conference, as follows:

See Resolutions of Conference in East China, I, 10.

10. Specifics

RESOLVED, That in view of the serious embarrassment to the work of the Missionary Union resulting from the unauthorized use of specific funds, we disapprove of the personal soliciting of moneys from the constituency of the Missionary Union for objects not yet approved by the conference and Executive Committee;

Further, That all specific gifts received from denominational organizations should be accounted for, and so far as possible, applied on regular appropriations, only the use of gifts from personal friends being left to the discretion of the individual missionary;

Further, That gifts from whatever source, exceeding \$100 Mexican in amount, should be used for objects outside of current appropriations only upon approval of these objects by the reference committee and the Executive Committee.

11. Auditing Accounts

In order to make the office of auditor in our South China Conference most effective,

RESOLVED, That the members of the conference submit to the auditor for his approval that copy of their annual financial report which they intend to send home to the Treasurer; and that together with this they hand over to him for inspection their book of original entry, and also, so far as possible, show vouchers for the year's transactions.

12. Cooperation Between Women's Boards

RESOLVED, That it would be highly beneficial to our work if the Woman's Societies could arrange for such cooperation as would permit of the interchange of workers whether on the field or under appointment, and for cooperation in other matters as occasion may arise.

II. GENERAL MISSIONARY

1. Acceptance of Plan

RESOLVED, That we cordially accept the plan of the Executive Committee in the appointment of general missionaries, and that we pledge our support to and cooperation with Dr. Dearing in the position to which he has been called. That we recommend that missionaries keep the general missionary in touch with the work, by correspondence, as occasion may arise.

2. Suggestions as to Work

That the general missionary shall have access to all meetings of the conference without vote, and as occasion may offer opportunity shall be welcomed at meetings of committees of the conference, except in cases where a private session may be desired. That in the event of the general missionary and the conference being in disagreement in the presentation of mission matters to the Executive Committee, the conference shall be entitled to a copy of the correspondence between the general missionary and the Executive Committee relating to the question under consideration.

That the representatives of the Woman's Societies should have the same relation to the general missionary as the other missionaries of the Union,

That no important action should be taken by the Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the general missionary until such recommendation has been considered by the conference or reference committee.

That there be no official relation between the general missionary and the native Christian body.

III. THE NATIVE CHURCH

1. Invitation to Native Pastors

VOTED, That we extend to the pastors at Kityang the courtesies of the conference.

2. The Lord's Day

VOTED, That we adopt the resolution of the Shanghai joint conference in reference to observance of the Lord's Day, as follows:

See Resolutions of Conference in East China, III, 3.

3. Sunday Schools

Recognizing the wide-spread interest at home and in this land in Sunday school work, and at the same time realizing how little is being done in our South China Sunday schools for the young in both Christian and heathen homes, we recommend that this conference appoint a committee on Sunday school work, this committee to investigate conditions and formulate plans for meeting the need; and we further recommend that this conference request the conference of the native churches to appoint a similar committee which shall confer jointly with the committee appointed by this conference.

VOTED, That the Committee on nominations appoint this committee.

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in South China

4. Ancestral Worship

VOTED, That as a conference we record our conviction that the practise of ancestral worship is utterly inconsistent with Christian character and church membership.

5. Plural Marriage

While we recognize honest differences of interpretation of scripture teaching on this subject, we are of the opinion that Paul's words in I Timothy 2: 12, and Titus 1: 6 seem to imply that in the early church men with more than one wife were eligible to church membership, but not to church offices. This principle of toleration applies only to those cases in which the parties entered into their relation before coming to a knowledge of the truth; and any church member who takes an additional wife becomes at once a subject for church discipline.

IV. INTERDENOMINATIONAL RELATIONS

1. Inter-Church Relations

Together with all our brethren in China we recognize the gravity of the problems now arising with respect to unity and federation among churches of different denominations in China. These problems are commanding our serious study and prayerful effort for solution. The question as to the full interchange of members as between different denominations is not with us a present issue. In view, however, of the urgency of the problem in some parts of China and the possibility of being confronted with this problem or similar problems ourselves, we join with others in asking for an expression from the Executive Committee upon the subject. Our own position is that while eager to promote in all possible ways the growth of Christian fellowship and brotherhood we do not hesitate to state that we cannot subscribe to the free interchange of church members. We stand for baptism, that is immersion, on personal profession of faith as the indispensable condition of church membership.

2. Auxiliary Societies

RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this conference the time has not come for the forming and fostering of interdenominational young people's societies in our churches, but we recommend that in stations where there are boarding and other schools of higher grade the missionaries in charge keep an open mind regarding the necessity for such organizations, and that in case such seem advisable, in the interests of a common mission policy, consultation on the subject be had with the conference or reference committee before any organization be effected.

V. EVANGELISTIC WORK

In regard to evangelistic work it was voted that the resolution of the Shanghai joint conference be adopted as follows:

See Resolutions of Conference on East China, V.

VI. EDUCATIONAL

1. General Policies

The educational committee reported resolutions which were adopted as follows:

That we accord our assent in general to the resolutions passed by the Shanghai joint conference relating to educational subjects, reemphasizing the resolution on Girls' Schools and on Religious Instruction and Influence, as having more special relation to our South China field.

See Resolutions of Conference on East China, VI, 4, 8.

2. Relation with Government Schools

In places where there are government schools, we should seek to cultivate the most friendly possible relations with the teachers and with the pupils of such schools, always with the aim of bringing them into such contact with Christianity as shall prepare the way for their personal acceptance of Christ as Saviour and Lord.

3. Presidency of Seminary

It was unanimously voted by rising that Dr. Ashmore, Jr., be nominated first president of the Ashmore Theological Seminary.

4. Biblical School at Kaying

VOTED, That the conference recommend the continuance of Bible instruction at Kaying for the present, but that the secretary of the conference write immediately to learn if a union may be effected with the theological work of the southern Baptists among the Hakkas.

VII. MEDICAL WORK

1. Provision for Kityang

We recommend that Dr. Adkins be temporarily designated to the medical work at Kityang and to such oversight as he may find possible of the medical work for men at Kakchihoh, with the understanding that as soon as possible some other physician shall be found for Kityang, when he shall be free to take up work at Chaochowfu, still continuing his relation to Kakchihoh.

That a lady physician be requested for the Kityang hospital, and such arrangements as practicable be made for men.

We recommend that a competent trained nurse be sent as soon as possible to the Kityang work.

2. Vacancy at Kaying

VOTED, That the request of Kaying missionaries for the return of Dr. Grant or the sending of some other lady physician to Kaying be endorsed; also their request for a lady evangelistic worker.

3. Request for Hospital at Chaoyang

We recognize Chaoyang as a great center of population, and as offering a most favorable opening for medical work, and we recommend the appointment of a physician and the establishment of a hospital plant at that city as soon as the man and the money can be obtained.

Resolutions Adopted by Conference in South China

4. Board of Chinese Visitors

RESOLVED, To recommend the establishment of a Chinese board of visitors for each mission hospital, with a view to promote fraternal relations, as well as to secure native interest in, and support for, our medical institutions.

5. Native Support

RESOLVED, That in the judgment of the conference it is very desirable that in the conduct of hospital work provision for the current expenses shall be sought by regular subscriptions from native sources.

6. General Medical Situation

We recommend that Dr. Adkins, in connection with the medical committee appointed by this conference, be requested to set forth to the Executive Committee and the Woman's Boards the whole medical situation in the South China field.

We recommend that a copy of this statement be sent to Dr. Eubank as Acting Field Secretary, with the request that he make special inquiry at the medical schools for suitable candidates.

7. Individual Communion Cups

RESOLVED, That the members of this conference deem it their duty strongly to urge upon the Christian Chinese the importance of using the individual communion cups.

VIII. PUBLICATION WORK AND LANGUAGE EXAMINATION

1. The Canton Press

VOTED, That we reaffirm our hearty support of the work of the Publication Society at Canton.

2. Hymn Book

VOTED, That Mr. Grosbeck be asked to negotiate with the Publication Society at Canton for an edition of not less than 3000 copies of the Hymn Book.

3. Language Study

VOTED, That we instruct our educational committee to confer with the missionaries of the English Presbyterian Mission to learn if an arrangement can be made for cooperation in examination of missionaries.

IX. LOCAL NEEDS

1. The Peril of Retrenchment

VOTED, That we make the resolution of the Shanghai joint conference in regard to retrenchment our own, as follows:

See Resolutions of Conference in East China, IX, 1.

2. Work in Siam

VOTED, That a committee be appointed for investigation of the work in Siam.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Thanks for Hospitality

RESOLVED, That we express our hearty thanks to all the Kityang missionaries, especially to the ladies, for their generous and abounding hospitality, and for the complete arrangement made for our personal comfort and the conduct of conference business.

2. Thanks to Executive Committee

RESOLVED, That we express to the Executive Committee our sincere thanks for the visit of the Foreign Secretary and the two general missionaries, and to these brethren for the help and inspiration their presence and words have been to us.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY PHILIPPINE MISSION CONFERENCE

JARO, DECEMBER 9-18, 1908

I. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL

1. Reference Committee. Constitution and Rules of Action

We recommend that our constitution be so amended as to provide for a reference committee of five; that any member of the conference shall be eligible to membership; that each station shall be represented on the committee, unless this privilege shall be waived; that the committee shall be chosen at the annual conference, and shall consist of two groups, one to retire each year, excepting that the first election shall provide for the election of two for two years, and three for one year; that no retiring member shall succeed himself; that there shall be three regular meetings of the committee during the year, one of which shall be at the time and place of the annual conference, the other two to be distributed between the other two stations, and that the time of these meetings be announced at the preceding conference; that no case can come before the committee except at these regular meetings, unless it be one of special emergency; that all cases should be in the hands of the secretary of the committee at least two weeks before any regular meeting; that all transactions of the committee shall be reported immediately to each member of the conference, to the Executive Committee, and to the general missionary; that no action of the committee shall be submitted to a conference vote until the annual conference, unless within two weeks of mailing transactions the secretary of the committee shall receive three dissenting opinions, in which event he shall turn the case over to the secretary of the conference to be submitted to conference vote; that the committee shall have the power of initiative.

2. Joint Relation of Trustees and Committees

We recommend that all standing committees and boards be regarded as joint committees of the Executive Committee and the conference; that their annual report be submitted to the conference, and by the conference to the Executive Committee unaltered, all recommendations and pertinent remarks to be appended; that in cases where a special report during the year is desired by the Executive Committee, a copy of the same is to be sent to the reference committee.

3. Powers of Property Committee

We recommend that there be added to the powers of the property committee the power to order a cessation of work on construction, and to prohibit further withdrawal of funds from the treasury for the same construction, whenever there arises such difference of judgment between the missionary and the committee as to occasion a departure from the plans already approved by the committee.

We recommend that the mission treasurer be instructed not to pay any property or building appropriations except upon endorsement of the property committee.

Resolutions Adopted by Philippine Mission Conference

4. Qualification for Service on Committees

We recommend that a one year's residence be considered as a necessary qualification for membership on any standing committee.

5. Appropriations in Gross — General

We recommend that while this conference does not feel prepared to express at this time its approval of the plan for appropriations in gross, that we favor further investigations of the working and the result of such a plan in other missions and consideration of its adaptability to our own situation.

6. Gross Appropriations for Individual Missionaries

We recommend that the conference request that all individual appropriations be made to missionaries in a lump sum.

7. Graded Estimates

We recommend that each missionary furnish such a graded estimate of his yearly needs that the conference may be able to represent to the Executive Committee as nearly as possible the relative importance of requests approved by it.

8. Emergency Fund

We recommend that the mission treasurer be authorized on demand of the reference committee to pay out money in addition to the appropriation in cases of special emergency, when in the judgment of the reference committee it seems probable that the Executive Committee will approve the expenditure in question. The total amount of money thus used must not exceed the sum of 500 pesos in any one year.

9. Specifics

We recommend that this conference express its hearty approval of the Budget Plan of the Northern Baptist Convention; that we express just as hearty disapproval of the soliciting of specific gifts by missionaries except as they are specially designated by the Union, and that we do all we can personally to discourage such gifts from among the constituents of the Union.

10. Auditing Accounts

RESOLVED, That the conference favor the employment by the property committee of a competent auditor to audit the books of the mission treasurer at the close of the financial year, this report to accompany the treasurer's report to Boston.

11. Cooperation Between Woman's Boards

We recommend that this conference concur with the resolution of other conferences on the foreign field regarding the possible union of Woman's Boards.

See Resolutions of the Conference in East China, I, 2.

II. GENERAL MISSIONARY

1. Appreciation of Plan

We recommend that this conference express its most hearty appreciation of the action of the Executive Committee in the appointment

Resolutions Adopted by Philippine Mission Conference

of a general missionary, and further that we pledge our most loyal support to and cordial cooperation with Dr. Dearing, in this position to which he has been called.

2. Suggestions as to Work

We also recommend concurrence with the following suggestions made by the East China Conference, asking that paragraphs "d" and "f" be covered in a new edition of the Manual.

See Resolutions of Conference in East China, II, 2.

III. RELATIONS WITH NATIVE BODIES

RESOLVED, That in the opinion of the conference the time has not yet come for native representation on boards of trustees, but that we would not lose sight of the fact that all our endeavors should be promotive of realization of such an ideal.

IV. INTERDENOMINATIONAL RELATIONS

1. Inter-Church Relations

We recommend that when members of other evangelical denominations come into our Christian communities they shall be received into Christian fellowship and encouraged to participate in all the benefits of church relation, without losing sight of the principle that Baptist churches are composed of baptized believers.

2. Young People's Societies

RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this conference the time has not come for the forming and fostering of interdenominational and young people's societies in our churches.

3. Young Men's Christian Association Work

We recommend that the conference express its opinion that the time is fully come for the opening of native Young Men's Christian Association work in Iloilo, and that this action be communicated to the International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations urging them to take up this work.

V. EDUCATIONAL WORK

1. General Educational Committee

We recommend that provision be made for an educational committee to have supervision of all educational interests of the mission not specifically provided for by boards or trustees.

2. Educational Fund

RESOLVED, That it be the sentiment of this conference that the creation of an educational fund distinct from the funds for property and general work is desirable and that we urge the administration of the Union to secure such a fund.

3. Support of Ministerial Education

We recommend that it be the sentiment of this conference that the support of regular Bible school students be expected from their churches, supplemented by the offerings of individuals where needed or offered.

Resolutions Adopted by Philippine Mission Conference

4. Principalship of Bible School

We recommend the redesignation of Mr. Lund to the Bible School and translation work in Iloilo.

5. Assistant for Work of Bible School

We recommend that the matter of an assistant for Mr. Lund in the Bible School be submitted to the board of trustees of the Bible School in conference with Mr. Lund upon his arrival, with power of advisory action in recommendation to the Executive Committee.

6. Credentials of Students

We recommend that students in the regular course in the Bible School have as credentials recommendations from both their churches and the missionary of their district.

7. Study of English in Bible School

The committee considers it essential that full opportunity be given for the study of English in the Bible School and that regular students shall be required to take such a course.

8. Girls' School for Iloilo

We recommend that it is the unanimous sentiment of this conference that a girls' school for pay pupils be immediately established in Iloilo. It is believed that the school could be started at once, in a rented building, with a view to expansion at the earliest possible moment. We would earnestly recommend that Miss Bissinger be continued in her present field and be asked to take up the work at once. Of the new branches of work contemplated by this conference we consider this to be the most important. It is understood that the fees shall offset the running expenses of the school.

9. Dormitory at Bacolod

We recommend that the conference approve the request for a dormitory building to be owned by the Union in Bacolod and that the matter be referred to the property committee as to plans and estimates.

10. Dormitory at Iloilo

We recommend that an appropriation of 2000 pesos be made for the purchase of a lot and the erection of a temporary dormitory structure adjacent to the Iloilo Trade School.

11. Dormitory at Capiz

We recommend that an appropriation of 750 pesos be made for opening dormitory work in Capiz.

12. Temporary Plans for Industrial School

The committee recommends the continuance of the temporary designation of Mr. Bigelow to the Industrial School, it being understood that he shall have practically no responsibility during one half of each day, which time is to be devoted to language study, and further, that he shall have the privilege of accompanying other missionaries on occasional tours as opportunity offers.

Resolutions Adopted by Philippine Mission Conference

13. Relief for Bacolod Dormitory

RESOLVED, That we urge the Woman's Board to send out a young woman immediately to relieve Miss Kuhlen in the work of the girls dormitory at Bacolod.

VI. MEDICAL WORK

1. Committee on Medical Work

We recommend the appointment of a medical committee on which shall be adequate non-medical representation.

2. Evangelistic Work in Hospital

In view of the fact that mission hospitals are in charge of Christian doctors and Christian nurses, and that these are calculated to know best how to meet the problems involving their work, and further, that such a plant is in itself a great evangelizing agency, and that the best results are apt to be defeated by any unwise or overaggressive propaganda, we recommend that the question of evangelizing work in connection with the hospital be left to the doctors in charge, in conjunction with the hospital committee, with the understanding that careful and thorough consideration is to be given to this phase of the work, and further, that every effort to conserve results shall be made.

3. Support of Hospital

We recommend that the management of mission hospitals aim to keep the current expenses within the actual income and that both the books and the conduct of the hospital be subject to review by the medical committee at any time.

4. Enlistment of Interest of Filipinos in Work of Hospital

We recommend that the management of mission hospitals procure co-operation of the Filipino public through the establishment of a visiting committee and a Filipino auxiliary, to the end that a public sentiment be developed in recognition of mission hospitals as primarily Filipino interests and not foreign institutions.

5. Hospital at Bacolod

We recommend that in view of the fact that the people of Bacolod are urging the doctor in residence to solicit funds for a hospital to be located in Bacolod, in case sufficient funds can be raised upon the field for a small building the Union be requested to accept the same and to furnish equipment not to exceed \$2000.

VII. PUBLICATION WORK

We recommend that the Press building be put to the following uses:

1. That the front and rear of the first floor be occupied by a bookstore and press establishment; the remaining portion to be used for the present as a dormitory and class rooms for Bible students.
2. That the second floor be divided as follows:

(1) The front to be used as an assembly hall for worship and other appropriate uses. In case the hall should not be found serviceable it can readily be changed into an office, or offices for rental.

Resolutions Adopted by Philippine Mission Conference

(2) The section back of the hall to be used for the present as class rooms and a residence, occupancy of the residence by Mr. Lund or some other member of the mission to be determined after Mr. Lund's return.

VIII. NEED OF ADVANCE

RESOLVED, That it be the sentiment of this conference that we deeply sympathize with the administration in the problem presented to them by present financial stringency and that we will do all in our power to meet the real needs of the work with the least possible expenditure, at the same time we wish to bring to the attention of our home constituency the larger opportunities which have existed in this field from the inception of the work and the continually increasing demands, which, far from admitting of retrenchment, call for enlargement of present endeavors and entrance into new fields.

It is urgently recommended that the most careful consideration be given the matter of work in Mindanao Island at the earliest possible opportunity and that the field be manned by both a doctor and an evangelistic worker, or at least by the latter.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Furloughs

We recommend that the conference express its satisfaction with the present arrangement of the Executive Committee regarding furloughs as outlined in the new manual, the three-year term being for very exceptional cases.

2. By-laws

We recommend that all by-laws be published with the constitution.

3. Incorporation of Baptist Churches

We recommend that the question of incorporation of Baptist churches be taken up with the civil commission and the assembly at its next session by the secretary of the conference.

4. Home Correspondents

We recommend that the reference committee appoint from the members of the mission regular correspondents for the home papers, and that this duty of the committee and appointment of the correspondent be considered sacred and the opportunity used to the limit. The appointment should be during the residence of the missionary, governed by faithfulness in the performance of the duty.

5. Thanks to Executive Committee

RESOLVED, That we express our gratitude to the Executive Committee for the visit of the Foreign Secretary and the general missionaries and that we record our conviction that the entire conference has been exceedingly beneficial and will result in a clearer understanding of those aims, ideals and principles that are promotive of the largest result in mission work.



UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



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